

## HOW TO GUIDE BOOKLET ON DISASTER RESILIENT LOW -COST HOUSE FOR CYCLONE PRONE AREA



**CARITAS BANGLADESH**  
2, Outer Circular Road  
Shantibagh, Dhaka 1217  
BANGLADESH



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| <b>Publisher</b>                         | Caritas Bangladesh<br>House # 02, Outer Circular Road<br>Shantibagh, Dhaka 1217<br>BANGLADESH   |
| <b>1st Edition</b>                       | October, 2018   |
| <b>Advisory<br/>Editorial Board</b>      | Ranjon Francis Rozario, Assistant Executive Director-Program,<br>Caritas Bangladesh<br><br>Pintu W. Gomes, Project Director, Emergency Response<br>Caritas Bangladesh   |
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| <b>Financial Aid</b>                     | Secours Catholique, Caritas, France   |
| <b>Technical<br/>Assistance</b>          | Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology-BUET<br>and<br>CRAterre, France   |
| <b>Cover Page</b>                        | Marcel Raton Guda, Program Officer<br>Disaster Management Sector, Caritas Barishal Region   |
| <b>Printing</b>                          | Shovon Printing and Enterprise<br>1/2, Purba Tejgaon Bazaar, Dhaka 1215<br>Cell # 0088-01718-041768   |
| <b>English rendering<br/>from Bangla</b> | A. R. M. Saidul Huq<br>Free Lance Consultant – DRR and Development<br>Cell: 88-01720038768 / E-mail ID <a href="mailto:arm.saidul@gmail.com">arm.saidul@gmail.com</a>   |

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## **PREFACE**

**Caritas Bangladesh commenced its disaster management program and initiated relevant activities to serve the disaster-affected community in the background of cataclysmic November 12, 1970 Cyclone and Storm Surge in the southern part of the country as well as to respond to dire needs of millions affected by nine-month long 1971 Bangladesh War of Liberation.**

**Bangladesh is one of world's most disaster-vulnerable areas on account of its geographic location. Natural hazards like flood, flash flood, cyclone, storm surge, drought, river-bank erosion, landslide, etc., cause immense human casualty, crop failure and property loss almost every year, affecting the poor and low-income people. General public are very much affected and distressed on account of house collapse leading to troublesome accommodation problem in the wake of such disaster occurrence. Poverty and poor earning prevent average people from building and owning strong and well-built house, and this hard fact results in damage and destruction of their dwelling options following moderate wind and/or water in-flow.**

**Caritas Bangladesh identified this housing problem as far back as 1985 and has been on the move since then to find out practicable way out. It adopted a "Low-cost Housing" pilot project in 2010 following the 'evaluation of low-cost housing assistance' project undertaken earlier in 2007 to serve the families distressed by November 15, 2007 Cyclone SIDR. Low-cost houses were constructed during 2010 in cyclone-prone Kalapara upazila (sub-district) under Patuakhali district and flood-prone Sirajdi Khan upazila (sub-district) under Munshiganj district to provide relief to disaster affected families.**

**Eventually in 2012-14 following adequate experiment, study and observation, a pilot project titled Low Cost Housing (Pilot LCH) was taken in hand under financial assistance from Secours Catholique–Caritas France and Caritas Luxemburg. Prime aim and objective of the Project was evolving viable design and strategy towards construction of low-cost sustainable and disaster-friendly house according to hazard types in disaster-vulnerable areas of Bangladesh as well as to encourage and motivate the poor community at risk to accept and pursue them; Caritas utilized technical assistance in this respect from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) and CRAterre France.**

**Mainstreaming Disaster Friendly Low Cost Housing (MDFLCH) project was subsequently undertaken for the period of 2016-18 under financial assistance from Secours Catholique – Caritas France. As part of the project, Caritas developed as many as 35 structural designs compatible to disaster-friendly and sustainable house construction in view of hazard types and hazard-risky area; BUET and CRAterre France provided necessary technical assistance in the exercise. To promote the issue further, 105 disaster-friendly and sustainable low-cost model houses were constructed according to these designs in 20 unions of 20 upazilas under 17 districts within 08 dioceses of Caritas Bangladesh.**

**Later, Disaster Management Committee members at union and ward level and Asrayon Task Force members within MDFLCH project area, project staff and BUET teachers visited the model houses time to time; they utilized these fact-finding visits to reflect on such relevant aspects as various designs, building pattern, local culture, easy availability of building materials in the locality, cost, etc.**

Pertinent house-building aspects in consideration of threats and risks associated with flood, flash flood, cyclone and storm surge, river-bank erosion and drought vulnerable areas of Bangladesh were well discussed and duly analyzed at field, regional and national level to develop 'low-cost and sustainable house-building Instruction Manual' involving 10 construction steps. Workshops were organized at regional and national level in order to fine tune the issue and finalize 05 (five) low-cost house-building Guide Books to serve the purpose of the dwellers living in fore-noted five hazard-vulnerable areas.

Occurrence of Cyclone and Storm Surge in the sea-side coastal belt of Bangladesh is almost a yearly phenomenon because of its geographic location; human casualty, house collapse, crop loss, communication disruption, etc., result in its wake. Severe Cyclone and Storm Surge battering the coastal habitation in November 1970 and April 1991 had left a trail of devastation, destroying house and its surrounding on a massive scale; building cyclone resilient dwelling house for the people of southern coastal area turned out to be imperative. This Handbook developed by Caritas contains set of ideas and options for building cyclone risk-absorbing house; consultation with the Manual and pursuing its guidelines while constructing house in the coastal area would reduce damage and loss on account of cyclone and storm surge.

Disaster Management Sector of Caritas Bangladesh in cooperation with its eight Regional Offices had to put in extensive work and diligent effort to develop this Instruction Manual. Secours Catholique–Caritas France and Caritas Luxemburg provided financial assistance and Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) and CRAterre France offered technical assistance. We are sincerely grateful to all of them. We are equally grateful to International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRCS) to allow us to utilize 15 (fifteen) of their suitable pictures for the Manual: (Cf. Session-1 Pics.11; Session-2 Pics.13 & 18, Session-8 Pics.78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86; Session-9 Pics.87 & 88).

The Manual refers to the building materials compatible to hazard-risk reducing construction and prescribes the requisite strategy. We are convinced that proper training of the construction labour force as per the Manual, involvement of the people to its purpose and house construction in accordance with its guidelines will make for minimal damage and loss in disaster aftermath. We also firmly believe that this Manual will facilitate cyclone-risk vulnerable poor community in the coastal zone of Bangladesh to build low-cost, cyclone-resistant, sustainable as well as safe and comfortable dwelling house.

To conclude, changing and advanced technology and variation in hazard pattern will necessitate modification and re-edition of the Manual in view of time-to-time reflection and observation, and we will do the needful accordingly. Valuable advice and opinion of the Readers and Users of the Guide Book will be attached due importance during re-editing process.

Francis Atul Sarker  
Executive Director  
Caritas Bangladesh

# Session I

## Subject: House Layout (First Step towards House Construction)

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Objective</b>                  | <p><b>This Session will enable the Participants</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To explain formation of the Layout of a disaster-resilient house and actually form a layout.</li> <li>2. To pin-point the area, type and set-up of the Layout as well as mention the advantages and disadvantages thereof.</li> <li>3. To describe the disaster risk reduction aspects while framing the Layout and apprise others accordingly.</li> </ol>  |
| <b>Time</b>                       | 75 Minutes  |
| <b>Methodology</b>                | Lecture, Discussion, Event recounting, Question-Answer, Experience sharing, Picture display and Drawing.  |
| <b>Materials</b>                  | Board, Poster Paper, Marker, Flip Chart, Scale, Tape, Rope, Thread, Bamboo Pillar, Hammer, Spade, etc.  |
| <b>Session Conduction Process</b> | <p><b>Step-I: Time-10 Minutes</b></p> <p>Facilitator will exchange greetings and initiate day's session; at the very outset, s/he will write out the topic and objective on the board or poster paper.</p>  |
|                                   | <p><b>Step-II: Time-20 minutes</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitator will seek participants' view/opinion about layout, rationale behind layout, nature of layout in their locality, which points / issues are considered relevant to site selection during construction of a house.</li> <li>2. Following participants response, s/he will expose them to issues for consideration in respect of house site selection through relevant picture(s) by way of flipchart/multi-media; s/he will also provide handout/sample picture(s) to them.</li> </ol>  |
|                                   | <p><b>Step-III: Time-25 Minutes</b></p> <p>Facilitator will take the participants in the field and impart practical lesson on layout setting.</p>   |
|                                   | <p><b>Step-IV: Time-10 Minutes</b></p> <p>Facilitator will point out to the participants what disaster risk reduction aspects need to be considered in setting layout.</p>  |
|                                   | <p><b>Step-V: Time-10 Minutes</b></p> <p>Facilitator will seek participants perception of the following as part of evaluation process through question-answer:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is a layout and what is its necessity?</li> <li>2. How and where to draw a layout?</li> <li>3. What are its advantages, disadvantages, imperatives, etc.?</li> <li>4. Which disaster risk reduction issues are relevant for consideration while making a layout? .</li> </ol> <p>S/he might be required to reiterate points/issues as he deems appropriate for the sake of participants clarity; s/he then will wrap up the session with vote of thanks</p> |

## Facilitator's Guide

### (House Layout)

Layout of a house refers to its location/situational aspect and its construction formula; layout formation at the appropriate/suitable location allows adequate light and wind ventilation in the house, makes for homestead beauty, minimizes storm wind pressure and ensures slender possibility of plinth collapse.

Following issues warrant due consideration to determine house layout:

**Area:** Total area of a house should measure 18'x10'-6"+6' in view of SPHERE Standard and normal house-building calculation in rural Bangladesh. Such area is determined to consider and accommodate living space, provision of guest and family conference point, storage of household materials, personal privacy of women, girls, elderly persons and persons with disability, etc.

**Location:** South-faced main door of the house ensures adequate light and wind. Because of geographic location, cyclone-prone area of Bangladesh features wind flow from south-eastern corner for better part of the year. On the other hand, wind flows here from north-west side during winter. As a result, sufficient light and wind are available in the house with comparatively cool atmosphere during summer, and conversely, house is quite warm and humid during winter.

It is better and advisable to provide for kitchen, water source and latrine as close to the house as practicable for the safety of women, girls and children as well as for convenience of elderly and persons with disability. Water source and latrine ought to be at least 30 feet apart; they can however be closely situated where sanitary latrine is provided with septic tank.

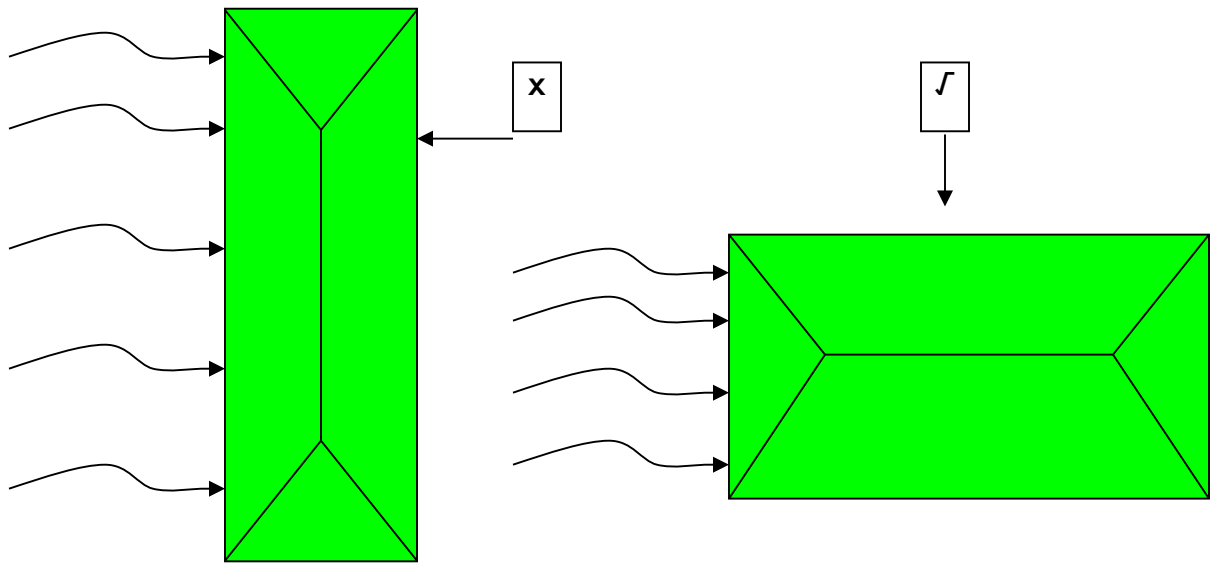
There should be provision of proper sewerage and drainage for the sake of healthy and pollution-free atmosphere around the homestead.

Neighbours should be consulted to learn their advantages and disadvantages while marking out the precinct of the house; this makes way for peaceful coexistence in the area.

**Layout Cost:** Estimated **BDT950.00** (BDT100.00 for temporary bamboo pillar, BDT 50.00 for rope and BDT800.00 for hiring two labourers)



## Pictures depicting issues/matters relevant to Layout

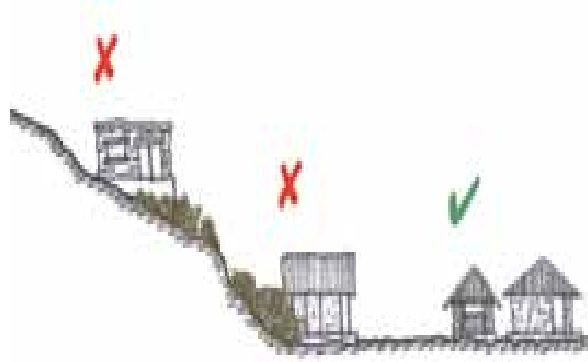


Proposed and Discouraged House Design

Picture 1: Breadth of the house should be wind-flow facing so as to minimize the air pressure and lessen the possibility of house blow-off



Pictures 2 and 3: House construction adjacent to pond or canal or river is very risky



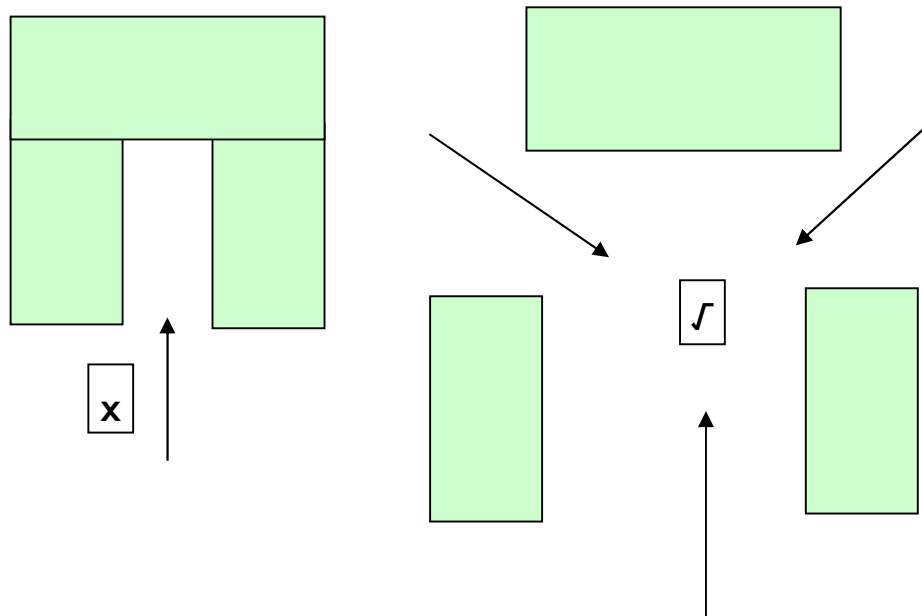
Pictures 4, 5 and 6: Constructing house in hill slope is very risky



Picture 7: House plinth/floor should be at least 450 meters or 1'-0.6" feet height than the flood/storm surge water level to reduce risk



Picture 8: Constructing house in flood / storm surge vulnerable area involves the risk of water inflow inside house



Picture 9: Drawing layout with provision of sufficient wind passage as above allows adequate wind and light inside and reduces air pressure



Picture 10: Provision of latrine at 30 feet distance from the house in north or western side keeps the house odour/stink free



Picture 11 Tree plantation at suitable distance in the vicinity of the house makes for minimum storm wind-slash leading to lesser risk of house collapse; tree plantation is imperative to withstand/contain wind slash (Sketch Credit:IFRC)



Picture 12: House construction in safe distance discounts the risk of house collapse through tree-falling

## Session II

### Subject: Foundation of the House (Second Step towards House Construction)

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Objective</b>                  | <b>This Session will enable the Participants</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To define various types of Foundation, Foundation of low-cost disaster-resilient house as well as its importance.</li> <li>2. To mention necessary building materials and describe construction strategy in relation to Foundation of low-cost disaster-resilient house.</li> <li>3. To reflect on the relevant aspects of disaster risk reduction while engaging in house Foundation and inform others accordingly.</li> <li>4. To assist others in working out the Foundation of low-cost disaster-resilient house according to noted design.</li> </ol>   |
| <b>Time</b>                       | 75 Minutes  |
| <b>Methodology</b>                | Lecture, Discussion, Question-Answer, Experience sharing, Picture/Model display and Drawing.  |
| <b>Materials</b>                  | Foundation Model, Multi Media (if available), Module, Board, Poster/Brown Paper, Marker, Leaflet, etc.  |
| <b>Session Conduction Process</b> | <b>Step-I: Time-5 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will exchange greetings and initiate day's session; at the very outset, s/he will write out the topic and objective on the board or poster/brown paper.  |
|                                   | <b>Step-II: Time-00:30 Minutes</b><br><ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitator will discuss about definition of foundation, various types of foundation, foundation of low-cost disaster-resilient house and its importance by way of picture/model display and/or drawing on board or brown paper in view of the handout.</li> <li>2. S/he will narrate sequentially about foundation worked out through brick, RC stone, RC pillar, soil/clay, etc., and its implementation mode. S/he will later display model or picture of each foundation and hold discussion through question-answer. Foundation common in the area and its implementation process should however gain priority in the discussion.</li> </ol> |
|                                   | <b>Step-III: Time-20 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will refer to the benefit of foundation and explain the drawback of a weak foundation. S/he will then discuss about maintenance of foundation, construction time-frame and cost. He would ensure that the discussion is not one-way and that the participants can raise questions.  |
|                                   | <b>Step-IV: Time-10 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will apprise the participants which matters/issues need to be considered to reduce disaster risk during foundation work; s/he will utilize handout and might display picture or model to that end.   |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Session<br/>Conduction<br/>Process<br/>(Contd.)</b> | <b>Step-V:Time-10 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will seek participants perception of the following as part of evaluation process through question-answer:<br><ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is foundation?</li> <li>2. What materials are required during foundation work?</li> <li>3. What are the benefits and drawbacks of foundation?</li> <li>4. What issues deserve consideration to reduce disaster risk during foundation work?</li> </ol> S/he might be required to reiterate point(s)/issues as he deems appropriate for the sake of participants clarity; s/he then will wrap up the session with vote of thanks. |
|--|---|

### **Tip for the Facilitator**

The Facilitator is required to consult various books, reports, updates, etc., relating to this topic apart from the module in order to gain clear concept of the subject matter; he might also try to collect any other relevant case-study to bolster his perception.

## **Facilitator's Guide**

### **(House Foundation)**

#### **Foundation**

Foundation is the base on which house is erected. Overall weight of a house is transformed into underground through foundation. Foundation has to be on hard compact soil as per appropriate design/sketch/drawing. Otherwise, weight of the house might cause subsidence of earth/soil underground, leading to crack/rupture/breakage in wall, pillar or any portion of the housing gears. Foundation is thus considered as very essential part of the house.

#### **Characteristic Detail**

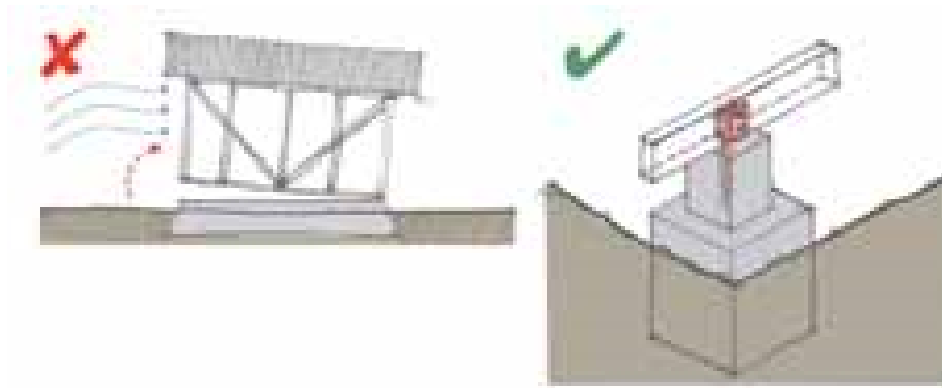
1. Breadth of a house is generally found to be large or small in consideration of the weight or load borne by wall and pillar.
2. Foundation depth generally differs in view of the height of the house, disaster perspective and local custom/practice or mode.
3. Possibility of house tremor, leaning and blown-out due to storm can be overcome if pillar is dug at least 1'-6" feet deep inside the hard soil and T-shaped plate is set below the pillar.
4. Foundation is to be interwoven with required number of anchors, otherwise wind might blow away wooden gears.

#### **Construction Strategy**

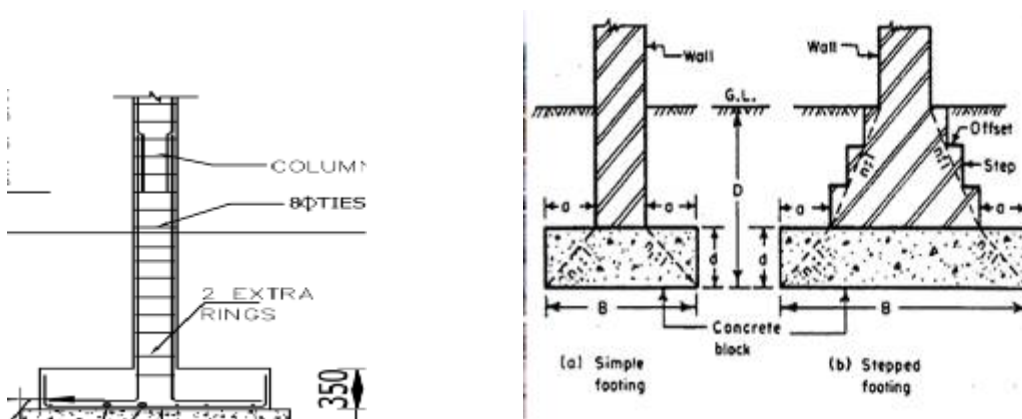
1. Foundation base ought to be at hard compact soil layers.
2. There should not be any foundation work at artificially filled-in soil layers. Even if foundation base is worked out at artificially filled-in soil layers, it has to be strong and hard as per appropriate foundation design.
3. The pillar has to be inserted at least 1'-6" feet deep inside the hard soil (through a Paddle as used by Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board, if required; the hole is to be compacted with a blending of hard soil, sand, brickchips, stonechips, etc., to prevent pillar's movement.
4. Bottom portion/base of the brick-wall and the foundation hole of the pillar need to be hardened through hammering/exerting excessive pressure.
5. Foundation place has to be filled-in hard and hammered with compacted soil or sand after pillar setting.
6. Provision of appropriate measure like drainage has to be there to prevent water accumulation at foundation base.



## Pictures depicting issues/matters relevant to Foundation Work

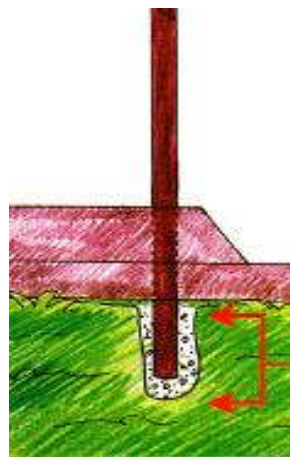
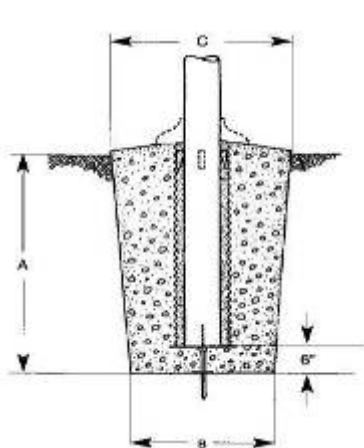


Picture 13: Required number of anchors should accompany the Foundation  
(Sketch Credit:IFRC)



Picture 14: RC Column Foundation

Picture 15: Brick-work Foundation



Picture 16: RC Pillar Foundation

Picture 17: Wooden Pillar Foundation



## Comparative Advantages and Disadvantages of various types of Foundation

| Foundation Detail               | Advantages                            | Disadvantages                         |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Bamboo/Wooden Pillar Foundation | Comparatively less costly             | Less sustainable/Less strong          |
|                                 | Locally available                     | Scarcity of mature bamboo             |
|                                 | Skilled Artisan is not required       | Vulnerable to insects or wood-worm    |
|                                 | Easily repairable                     |                                       |
| RC Pillar Foundation            | Sustainable/strong                    | Comparatively costly                  |
|                                 | Do not bend easily                    | Skilled Mason is not always available |
|                                 | Comparatively more disaster resistant | Comparatively hard to repair          |

### Advantages

House will not bend and wall will remain crack-free as long as hard soil layers will form its foundation with depth and width according to stipulated design.

### Disadvantages

1. Cost is comparatively higher.
2. Skilled labourers are required.
3. Accumulation of water at foundation base will subside/press it downwards causing wall-slide and leading to life damage and property loss.

### Maintenance

Corroded portion of the foundation base should regularly be filled-in with quality soil, hammered/hard-pressed as well as smeared and polished.

### Estimated Cost of Foundation (18' feet x10'-6" feet plus 6' feet wide balcony)

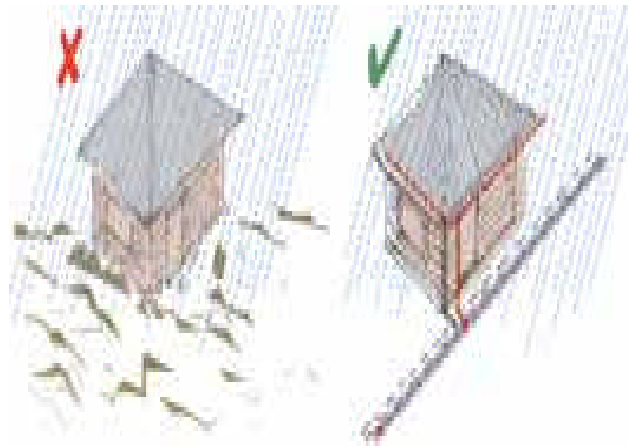
#### Bamboo/Wooden Pillar Foundation

| Sl. #              | Work Item   | Amount in BDT   |
|--------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1                  | Earth cutting, hole boring and soil pressing involving 02 Labourers | 800.00          |
| 2                  | Mixturing brickchips and sand for strong foundation                 | 1,200.00        |
| <b>Grand Total</b> |   | <b>2,000.00</b> |

#### RC Pillar/Stone Pillar Foundation

| Sl. #             | Work Item   | Amount in BDT   |
|-------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1                 | Earth cutting, hole boring and soil pressing involving 02 Labourers | 630.00          |
| 2                 | Stone collection, stone-soil mixturing                              | 3,360.00        |
| <b>GrandTotal</b> |   | <b>3,990.00</b> |

## Analysis of comparative advantages and disadvantages of different Foundations



Picture 18: Accumulation of water at foundation base causes soil erosion/corrotion weakening the house; provision of appropriate measure like drainage has to be there to prevent water accumulation at foundation base (Sketch Credit:IFRC)



Pictures 19 and 20: Foundation base ought to be within strong soil layers; downsliding/subsidence of base results in crack in the wall



Picture 21: Picture of a sound foundation base

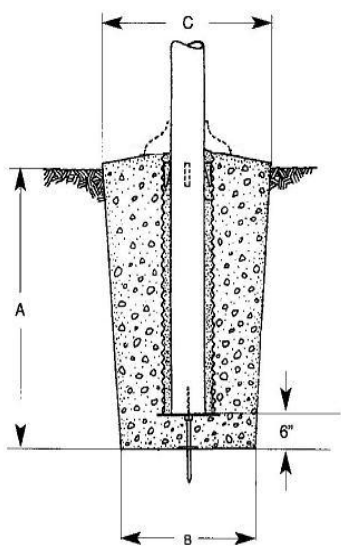
## Pictures depicting issues/matters relevant to Foundation Work



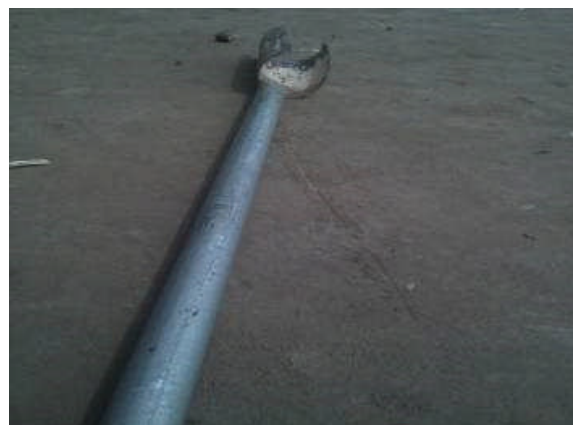
Picture 22: Pillar insertion at least at a depth of 1'-6" feet in strong soil forestalls any chance of house leaning



Picture 23: Pillar insertion in strong soil less than a depth of 1'-6" feet retains the possibility of house leaning



Picture 24: If wall layers are combined at 0.5' feet height over the courtyard, water cannot creep into the wall



Picture 25: Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board makes use of such Paddle

The pillar has to be inserted at least 1'-6" feet deep inside the hard compact soil (through a Paddle as used by Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board, if required); the hole is to be compacted with a blending of hard soil, sand, brickchips, stone chips, etc.; eventually, pillar will have no scope of movement.

## Session III

### Subject: Plinth of the House (Third Step towards House Construction)

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Objective</b>                  | <b>This Session will enable the Participants</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To define Plinth of the house construction and learn its importance.</li> <li>2. To learn various types of house Plinth, their respective features, advantages and disadvantages.</li> <li>3. To come across the strategy and process of constructing disaster resilient Plinth.</li> <li>4. To describe disaster risk reduction matters/issues while developing a Plinth and apprise others accordingly.</li> </ol>  |
| <b>Time</b>                       | 75 Minutes   |
| <b>Methodology</b>                | Lecture, Discussion, Question-Answer, Experience sharing, Picture/Model display and Drawing.   |
| <b>Materials</b>                  | Foundation Picture/Model, Multi Media (if available), Module, Board, Poster/Brown Paper, Marker, Leaflet, etc.   |
| <b>Session Conduction Process</b> | <b>Step-I:Time-5 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will exchange greetings and initiate day's session; at the very outset, s/he will write out the topic and objective on the board or poster/brown paper.  |
|                                   | <b>Step-II:Time-30 Minutes</b><br><ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitator will discuss about definition of plinth, various types of plinth, plinth of low-cost disaster-resilient house and its importance by way of picture/model display and/or drawing on board or brown paper in view of the handout.</li> <li>2. S/he will display model or picture of each type of plinth and hold discussion on implementation of various types of plinth through question-answer.; house plinth common in the locality and its implementation process should however gain priority in the discussion.</li> </ol> |
|                                   | <b>Step-III:Time-20 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will refer to the benefit of Plinth and explain the drawback of a weak plinth; s/he will then discuss about maintenance of plinth, construction deadline and cost. S/he would ensure that the discussion is not one-way and that the participants can raise questions   |
|                                   | <b>Step-IV:Time-10 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will apprise the participants which matters/issues need to be considered in respect of disaster risk reduction during plinth work; s/he will utilize handout and might display picture or model to that end.   |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Session<br/>Conduction<br/>Process<br/>(Contd.)</b> | <p><b>Step-V:Time-10 Minutes</b></p> <p>Facilitator will seek participants perception of the following as part of evaluation process through question-answer:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What materials are required to develop a plinth?</li> <li>2. How to well maintain a plinth?</li> <li>3. What issues matter in respect of disaster risk reduction while constructing a plinth?</li> </ol> <p>S/he might be required to reiterate points/issues as he deems appropriate for the sake of participants clarity; s/he will wrap up the session with vote of thanks.</p> |
|--|--|

## Facilitator's Guide

### (House Plinth)

#### Plinth

Plinth is a very important and indispensable part of a house. The space between the courtyard level and floor of the house is plinth. Plinth might take various designs or forms depending on house type, disaster perspective in the area, local custom/practice, etc. For example, plinth formed by mixture of soil and other elements, brick-built plinth, stone-based plinth, etc. People in some area again are accustomed to bamboo or wooden platform as plinth as part of their custom/practice.

#### Characteristic Detail

1. Plinth type is determined by local culture, custom and availability of materials in the locality.
2. Length and breadth of the plinth measures at least 0.06" feet larger than that of the house for the sake of sustainability.
3. Plinth height is determined in consideration of house location, hazard/disaster aspect and local custom/practice; in addition, plinth height of at least 1.00' feet more than the normal flood or water-logging level is maintained to stave off or reduce water submergence.
4. Mould of plinth soil is smeared/polished with one or the other of dry *binya* grass (a special type of grass), damaged paddy, dry straw, stiff grass, paddy husk, etc., depending on availability, in order to ensure strong and crack-resistant plinth.
5. Plinth is made sloppy with provision of rungs to make it strong. Plinth height determines its slope and steps, generally 2-3 steps.

## Pictures depicting various types of Plinth



Picture 26: Earthen plinth



Picture 27: Stone-based plinth



Picture 28: Brick-built plinth



Picture 29: Localized platform house



## Earthen Plinth

### Construction Strategy

1. Mould of plinth soil is smeared/polished with one or the other of dry *bina* grass (a special type of grass-2%), damaged paddy, dry straw, hardened grass, paddy husk, etc., depending on availability, in order to ensure strong and crack-resistant plinth.
2. Earthen mould has to be prepared along with ring-wall encircling the house and floor space to be filled-in before finalizing the plinth. Earth filling upto 0.06" feet layer along with hammering/hard-pressing of the soil is an effective deterrent to floor subsidence and crack
3. Outer portion of the roof has to be so extended as rain-water pouring down the roof lands 0.06" feet afar from the plinth, thereby preventing any damage to the plinth out of rain-water.

### Time-frame and Cost

At least 06 (six) labourers would have to engage for 04 (four) days to complete earth-filling of 1'-6" feet height plinth and floor measuring 18' feet length x 10' feet width along with a balcony measuring 6' feet.

**Cost** might be in the region of **BDT7,200/-**

### Advantages

1. Plinth strengthens overall structure of the house.
2. Required soil/clay forming the plinth along with mixing materials is locally available.
3. Landlord can equally engage in plinth work.
4. Application of any of (i) dry *binya* grass (a special type of grass), (ii) damaged paddy, (iii) dry straw, (iv) stiff grass, (v) paddy husk, to plinth soil results in lesser crack in the plinth, reduced soil erosion as well as prevents damp/humidity and adds to sustainability.
5. Plinth structured with requisite steps is comparatively stronger than general plinth.
6. Plinth with attached steps is well-neigh immune to damage from rain-water; only the lower step might however be affected if and when circumstances turn unfavourable. Besides, rungs/steps can be repaired without much hassles at minimum cost when damage occurs; plus, overall management cost and labour charge are meagre.

### Disadvantages

1. Green grass, dry straw, etc., tend to suck out earthen plinth, crack might result in the process; white ant might also be damaging.
2. Rain or storm surge might lead to soil erosion.
3. Plinth is vulnerable to rat-hole.
4. Damp/Humidity continues in plinth till Winter, Autumn and Late Autumn.

### Maintenance

1. Plinth has to be smeared/treated with cow-dung at least once a month; frequency might vary according to locality.
2. Washed away and/or eroded and/or hole-affected areas of the plinth must be filled-in forthwith, to be followed by area hammering/hard-pressing and smearing/polishing.
3. Vegetables, crop items, dry fish, etc., should not be stored/kept on the plinth floor to avoid any direct contact.
4. Rat menace must be addressed in no time.



## Pictures depicting issues/matters relevant to Plinth Work



Picture 30: One Step is provided in the plinth where its height from the ground level equals one feet



Picture 31: One-and-a-half feet height from the ground to plinth level calls for two Steps



Picture.32: Three Steps are allowed when height from ground to plinth level is more than one-and-a-half feet



Picture.33: One inch slope is provided in case of one feet height

## Pictures depicting issues/matters relevant to Plinth Work



Pictures. 34 and 35: If and when one or the other of dry *binya* grass (a special type of grass), damaged paddy, dry straw, stiff grass, paddy husk, etc., is smeared/polished with the mould of plinth soil, depending on availability, plinth gets stronger and crack-resistant



Picture. 36: Earthen mould has to be prepared along with ring-wall encircling the house and floor space has to be filled-in with appropriate soil prior to finalizing the plinth. Earth filling upto 6" layer along with hard-pressing/hammering of the soil is an effective deterrent to floor subsidence and crack.

Picture. 37: Outer portion of the roof has to be so extended as rain-water pouring down the roof lands 6" afar from the plinth, thereby preventing any damage to the plinth out of rain-water.



## Pictures depicting issues/matters relevant to Plinth Work



Picture.38: Use of green grass, dry straw, etc., tends to suck out earthen plinth, crack might result in the process; white ant might also be damaging.



Picture.39: Rats bore holes inside the plinth.



Picture.40: Rain-water mark: plinth topsoil has been washed away. ,



Picture.41: Specimen of a cracked plinth.



Picture.42: Roof should have 0-6" feet extension beyond the house fence or



Picture.43: Plinth has to be smeared/treated with cow-dung at least once a month; frequency might vary

## Brick Work Plinth

Brick-built plinths are common in water-logged, flood vulnerable and *haor* (wetland ecosystem) area of Bangladesh, because earthen plinths are unsafe and weak in the face of water ingress. Besides, brick-built plinths are sustainable and protective against theft/robbery, apart from adding to social status.

### Characteristic Detail

1. Five-inch bricks are utilized to prepare nine-inch high brick-built plinth
2. Ten-inch bricks should better be utilized for preparing nine-inch to two-feet high plinth; a combine of ten-inch and five-inch bricks may however be an alternative option in the light of the design in order to reduce cost.
3. Brick-built plinth utilizing a combine of ten-inch and fifteen-inch bricks may be used in case of two-three feet high plinth as per design.
4. In respect of house plinth in haor/wetland and saline water area, entire outer part of the brick-built plinth should be well plastered with net-cement finishing, which should go six inch underground.



Picture.44: Defective design results in crack in the plinth.



Picture.45: There can be brick-built plinth for a part of plinth area (vulnerable to rain-water sprinkles), avoiding the whole plinth area, so as to minimize cost.



Picture.46: Mud mixture can be applied to the plinth as a measure to minimize cost; but in that case, there has to be a pointing through mixture of cement and sand.

### Construction Strategy

1. Brick-work will start with soaking first grade bricks. First grade bricks are not susceptible to breakage if dropped down from chest-height position after setting them crosswise (lengthwise and diagonally) one above another. They will be of copper colour and must be smooth and even in shape.
2. Brickbats will have to be suitably blended with cement and sand according to required proportion, later to be watered; and this mixture must be put into use within one hour.
3. Thickness of masonry joint in brick must not be less than 12 mm and more than 20 mm.
4. Masonry joint must be in the middle point of each brick; however joint would have to be one-fourth in respect of ten-inch brick-work.
5. Masonry must be completed per appropriate plumb-line
6. Sand required in masonry has to be well strained so as to sieve out any unwanted and damaging particle.
7. Joint has to be well cleaned after work.
8. Saline water and saltish sand must not be applied in mason-work and plaster.
9. Curing will follow for at least 07 (seven) days following 24 (twenty-four) hours of masonry and plastering work.

### Time-frame:

Six labourers will have to engage for four days to complete brick plinth and earth filling of the floor of a house measuring 18' length x 10' breadth x 1'-6" feet height.

### Estimated Cost to construct a Brick Plinth of 1'-6" feet height along with a balcony:

| Item Detail        | Quantity                     | Unit Cost (BDT)   | Total Amount (BDT) |
|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| First grade Brick  | 665 Ea                       | 10.000            | 6,650.00           |
| Sand               | 13 Cft.                      | 31.00             | 400.00             |
| Cement             | 03 Bags                      | 450.00            | 1,350.00           |
| Earth Filling      | 02 Labourers x 02 days Wages | 1,250.00/Labourer | 2,500.00           |
| Masonry Charge     | 01 Mason and 02 Associates   | 650.00            | 1,300.00           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> |                              |                   | <b>12,200.00</b>   |

One might decide to have brick-built plinth only in the plinth side facing substantial rain-water sprinkles, avoiding the whole plinth area, so as to minimize cost.

### Advantages

1. Slender possibility of erosion from rain-water or storm surge.
2. Strong and hard plinth lasting for 20-25 years.
3. Neither damp nor wet until monsoon, autumn and late autumn.
4. Labour and management cost of the plinth is meagre/minimal
5. Plinth is immune to crack.
6. Underground theft is not possible.
7. Not vulnerable to damage by rat or any other animal.

### Disadvantages

1. Too much costly.
2. Excessive use of bricks results in environmental pollution.
3. Specialized mason(s) is required.

### Maintenance

1. Immediate repair in case of any damage.
2. Immediate repair to make up soil erosion in the base. .
3. Outer part of the plinth should be black-painted.

### Comparative Cost of Plinth

| Item Detail   | Total Budget (BDT) |
|---|--------------------|
| <b>Earthen plinth</b><br>(18' long x 10'-0.6" wide=385 Cft.)              | 6,200.00           |
| <b>Earthen plinth with balcony</b><br>(18' long x 16'-0.6" wide=545 Cft.) | 7,200.00           |
| <b>Brick-work plinth</b> including earth filling                          | 12,200.00          |

## Session IV

### Subject: Pillar of the House (Fourth Step towards House Construction)

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Objective</b>                  | <b>This Session will enable the Participants</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To understand about different types of Pillar of the house and its importance.</li> <li>2. To learn the construction strategy of different types of Pillar and their costing.</li> <li>3. To explain about advantages, disadvantages and maintenance of different types of Pillar.</li> <li>4. To learn about low-cost disaster-resilient Pillars and inform others in this respect.</li> <li>5. To pin point the disaster risk reduction aspects/issues to be considered while making Pillars.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Time</b>                       | 85 Minutes  |
| <b>Methodology</b>                | Lecture, Discussion, Question-Answer, Experience sharing, Picture/Model display and Drawing.  |
| <b>Materials</b>                  | Foundation Picture/Model, Multi Media (if available), Module, Board, Poster/Brown Paper, Marker, Leaflet, etc.  |
| <b>Session Conduction Process</b> | <b>Step-I:Time-10 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will exchange greetings and initiate day's session; at the very outset, s/he will write out the topic and objective on the board or poster/brown paper.  |
|                                   | <b>Step-II:Time-20 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will discuss on the following through lecture, question-answer, display of picture, model, etc. in the light of the handout:<br>Types of pillar, its necessity and importance   |
|                                   | <b>Step-III:Time-25 Minutes</b><br><ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitator will discuss about the construction strategy and cost of various types of pillar by way of picture/model display, drawing on board and reading from the handout</li> <li>2. S/he will display model or picture of each type of pillar and hold discussion on advantages, disadvantages and maintenance thereof</li> </ol> S/he would ensure that the discussion is not one-way and that the participants can raise questions   |
|                                   | <b>Step-IV:Time-15 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will resort of the handout to apprise the participants which matters/issues need to be considered to reduce disaster risk during pillar work  |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Session<br/>Conduction<br/>Process<br/>(Contd,)</b> | <b>Step-V:Time-15 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will seek participants understanding on the following as part of evaluation process through question-answer:<br><ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is a pillar meant for? What is its necessity and importance?</li> <li>2. What about pillar's formation mode and cost?</li> </ol> S/he might be required to reiterate points/issues as he deems appropriate for the sake of participants clarity; then s/he will wrap up the session with vote of thanks |
|--|---|



## Facilitator's Guide

### (House Pillar)

#### Pillar

House roof in rural Bangladesh is usually set over wooden pillar or bamboo pillar or RC pillar or brick wall. Weight of the roof is thus transferred onto the earth; a bonding between house and earth is established in the process, ensuring the effectiveness of the house structure.

Scarcity of mature wood, insect/worm attack, pillar decay/decomposition at the base, cost, etc., substitute RC pillar on the large scale for the wooden pillar



Picture.47: Termite affected wooden pillar



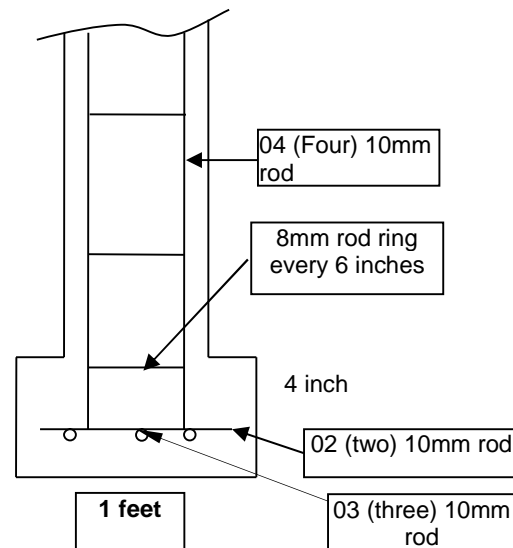
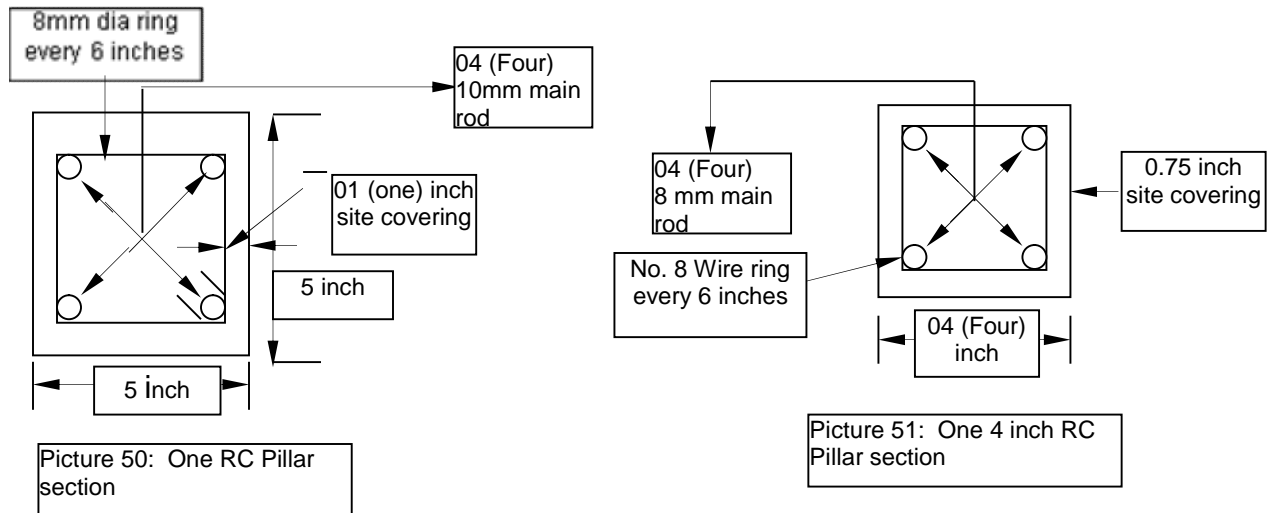
Picture.48: Wooden pillar affected by underground Insect



Picture.49: Use of RC pillar in rural area is on the rise

## Characteristic Detail

- Length of the Pillar of the main house should generally be 10' to 12' feet and section – 5" inch x 5" inch or 4" inch x 4" inch
- Length of the Pillar of the balcony should generally be 9' to 10' feet and section – 4' inch x 4' inch
- 04 (four) vertical 10mm dia MS Rods; 8mm dia Stirrup or Ring every 06 (six) inches (according to sketch/picture)
- Tee (T) is designed in RC Pillar according to sketch/picture as a measure to resist any onslaught on the house from wind and/or storm surge



Picture 52: One vertical column section

## Construction Strategy

1. Cement, sand and stone-or-brickchips are to be blended at 1:2:4 ratio; to be mixed later with concrete applying right quantity of water, so that the blending product does get thin.
2. Half inch down-grade brickchips are to be applied.
3. Sand and brick/stone chips are to be properly filtered in a strainer.
4. Thick sand has to be properly filtered before use in casting so as to sieve out any iota of stone, dust or rubbish inside; as because, fine sand must be free from dust/rubbish.
5. Brick and stone chips must be well washed prior to blending.
6. The Pillar has to be dug at least 1'-6" feet inside the foundation/base (through a Spud/Paddle utilizing rural electricity, if necessary). The hole has later to be compacted with hard clay, sand, brick-chips, stone-chips, etc. so as to avoid any movement of the pillar.
7. Pillar has to be dug vertically through plumb-line, so that it does not bend.
8. Pillar has to be perforated so as to properly bond the fence or set the doors/windows and corner bracing in good order
9. Roof frame has to be strongly tied with RC pillar top using additional rod, nut, bolt, etc., to prevent the roof from being blown away by wind/storm surge.
10. Pillar mould/forma should well be soaked in water or coated by heated/burnt mobil before casting
11. Pillar mould/forma should be removed 16 (sixteen) hours after casting
12. Pillar's top must not be sharp
13. Sweet water should be utilized for pillar's casting and curing, invariably not saline water; and the water ought to be free from straw, grass or leaves
14. Curing should span over a period of 14 (fourteen) days
15. Proper covering of the structure of rod(s) is to be ensured before casting/at the time of shuttering

## Time-frame to prepare an RC Pillar

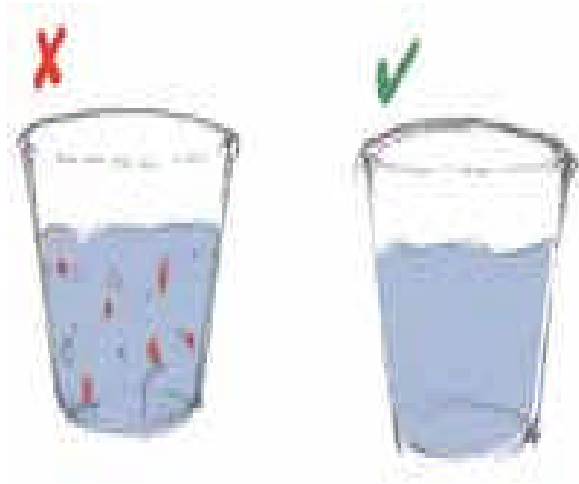
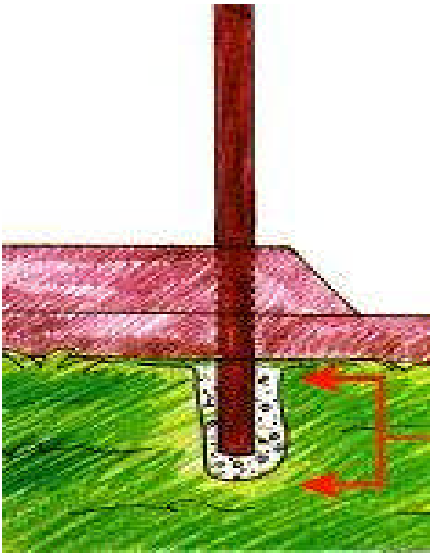
One mason in association with an attendant can very well complete casting of 04 (four) to 05 (five) pillars along with rod fastening and shuttering

## Cost

| Item Detail              | Quantity | Unit Cost (BDT) | Total Amount (BDT) |
|--------------------------|----------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 10' long pillar of 5"x5" | 4 Ea     | 1,400.00        | 5,600.00           |
| 12' long pillar of 5"x5" | 4 Ea     | 1,700.00        | 6,800.00           |
| <b>Grand Total</b>       |          |                 | <b>12,400.00</b>   |

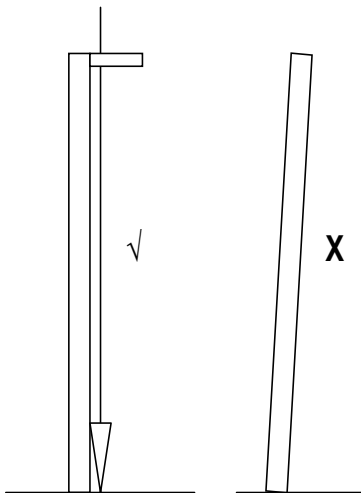
Note: Term "Ea" or "Each" is a standard unit for any countable item from materials management perspective

## Pictures depicting issues/matters relevant to RC Pillar



Picture. 53: The Pillar has to be dug at least 1'-6" feet inside the foundation/base. The hole has later to be compacted with hard clay, sand, brick-chips, stone-chips, etc. so as to overcome any movement of the pillar.

Picture. 54: Drinkable water is to be used while casting pillar (Sketch Credit-IFRC)



Picture. 55: Pillar has to be dug vertically through plumb-line, so that it does not bend

Picture. 56: Pillar has to be perforated so as to properly set fence bonding, or door/window with sheath and corner bracing

## Pictures depicting issues/matters relevant to RC Pillar



Pictures. 57 & 58: Roof frame has to be strongly tied with RC pillar top using additional rod, nut, bolt, etc., to prevent the roof from being blown away by wind/storm surge. .



Picture. 59: RC Pillar is designed as English "T" just as in the sketch/picture as a measure to resist any onslaught on the house from wind and/or storm surge

Picture. 60: Cement, sand and stone-or-brick-chips are to be blended at 1:2:4 ratio; to make out a strong and hard RC pillar



## Advantages

1. RC Pillar is stronger than, and can withstand/absorb more wind pressure in comparison to, bamboo/wooden pillar
2. It can last 15-20 years, if properly prepared
3. Its repairing is hardly required
4. It is less costly compared to the pillar of mature wood
5. T-shaped structure below the pillar prevents the house from any onslaught/being blown away from cyclone and storm surge
6. Requisite construction materials are locally available

## Disdvantages

1. RC Pillar might develop crack and succumb to salinity, if its coveriing is not appropriate
2. Its transportation might be problematic because of its weight
3. It cannot be elongated in future
4. Its fitting and fixing with house roof, bracing and fence are difficult in comparison to wooden pillar

## Maintenance

Marine paint should be applied to the base of RC Pillar so as to prevent damage from saline water



Picture.61: RC pillar might develop crack and succumb to salinity, if its coveriing is not appropriate

Picture.62: Marine paint should be applied to the base of RC Pillar so as to prevent damage from saline water

Picture.63: It might be difficult to carry because of its weight

## **Bamboo Pillar (*Borak*-local variety)**

Production in Bangladesh, availability of local materials and incurring minimum cost dictate maximum use of mature bamboo pillar (*Borak* bamboo-a local variety) to construct earthen house

### **Characteristic Detail**

1. House pillar is generally 9' to 12' feet long with 3" to 4" inch dia
2. At least 3-year old mature bamboo is used to avoid worm-attack in the pillar; and yellow colour at the bamboo joints confirms its 3-year maturity
3. Bamboo of borak/baijya/vailka variety is used as house pillar

### **Construction Strategy**

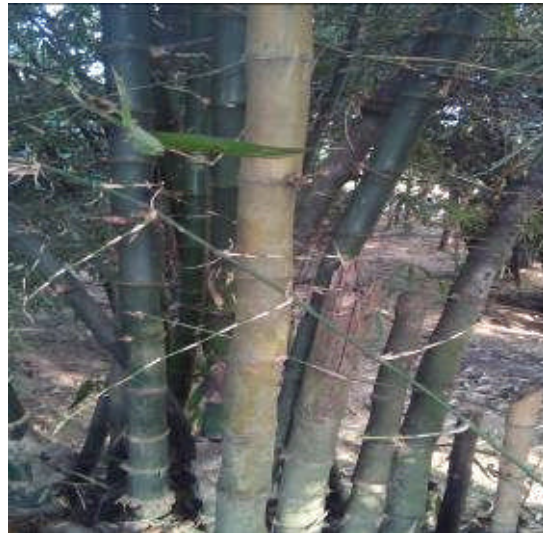
1. At least 3-year old straight/vertical mature bamboo is utilized as house pillar.
2. Bamboo for pillar should be gathered from bamboo garden during Bangla months of Falgun and Choitra (corresponding to mid-February to mid-April) of the year; mature bamboo ought to be cut off from the garden before appearance of new leaves.
3. Pillar has to be dug at least 1'-6" feet deep inside the indigenous/original earth/clay.
4. The hole has to be well compacted following insertion of the pillar.
5. The pillar has to be dug vertically to prevent any tendency to leandown.
6. There has to be a groove atop the pillar so as to well fasten the pyre; groove/sheath is to be carved slightly above the pillar-joint.
7. Bamboo for pillar has to be dried up for 07 (seven) days following collection from the source. It has to be drenched under pond/canal/river water at least for 03 (three) weeks and later dried again for seven days before ultimate use. Seven-day dried pillars are long-lasting and immune to worm-attack; This process is termed 'seasoning' or locally branded as pannet/painally
8. Pillar can be alternatively soaked in dug-out underground water in case there is no pond, canal or river.
9. Bottom part of the pillar underground plus six inches above the ground should be smeared/polished/mixed with tar, thereby making it immune to worm-attack.
10. Similarly, it can also be kept immune to worm-attack if bottom part of the pillar underground plus six inches above the ground is made brown through burningh/baking in fire
11. Pillar base should be a little below its joint.
12. Bamboo pillar lasts 10-15 years, if it is set over wood-wedge.
13. Nails should be penetrated into bamboo pillar with the help of awl; otherwise if done by hammer, bamboo might develop crack/fissure.

## Pictures depicting issues/matters relevant to RC Pillar



Picture. 64: Specimen of seasoning

Picture. 65: Specimen of tar mixture



Picture. 66: Specimen of wood wedge

Picture. 67: Mature bamboo



## **Cost**

Estimated cost of a pillar measuring 9' to 12' feet long and 3" to 4" inch dia would be BDT 200.00. 16 pillars to be set every three feet to cover a house measuring 18' feet long and 10' feet wide would thus cost **BDT3,200.00**. (Taka Three thousand and Two hundred only)

## **Advantages**

1. Bamboo pillar is available almost all over Bangladesh.
2. It incurs very minimal cost.
3. House owner can prepare bamboo pillar all by himself.
4. Mature and seasoned (panet/painally) bamboo lasts 4-5 years.
5. If set on the wood-wedge, bamboo pillar lasts 10-15 years.
6. Better part of the pillar can be recycled.

## **Disadvantages**

1. Pillar gets affected by termite/ghuna insect in absence of mature bamboo or if bamboo is not seasoned
2. Part of the pillar inside the soil succumbs fast to decay/decomposition

## **Maintenance**

Maintenance is not required as such; pillar's minimum contact with soil and water should however be ensured

## Wooden Pillar

Production in Bangladesh, local materials and its availability, capability to bear the requisite cost, custom/practice, etc., dictate maximum use of mature bamboo pillar to construct earthen/clay house in the country; wooden pillars are however comparatively largely used in hilly area.

### Characteristic Detail

Pillar of the house generally measures 9' to 12' feet high and 04' X 04' inch dia; dia is generally 03" X 03" inch in case of round-shaped pillar. Length and dia of the pillar in the balcony is lesser in comparison to the height of the house itself.

### Construction Strategy

1. Mature wood is required for pillar.
2. The pillar has to be dug at least 1'-0.6" feet inside the foundation/base (through a Spud/Paddle utilizing rural electricity, if necessary). The hole has later to be compacted with hard clay, sand, brick-chips, stone-chips, etc. so as to avoid any movement of the pillar.
3. The pillar has to be dug vertically by way of a plumb-line to prevent any tendency to leandown.
4. Grooves have to be carved out atop the pillar so as to fasten the roof tight.
5. Pillar has to be drenched under water for at least 03 (three) weeks and later dried for 07 (seven) days before use. Seven-day dried pillars are long-lasting and immune to worm-attack
6. Wooden pillar lasts 20-25 years, if it is set over concrete-wedge.
7. Pillar remains immune to worm-attack if lowest part of the pillar underground plus six inches above the ground is made brown through burning/baking in fire.

### Cost

A pillar measuring 09' to 12' feet long with 02" to 03" inch dia will cost BDT1,360.00; accordingly, 16 wooden pillars to be placed every three feet to cover a house measuring 18' feet long and 09' feet wide would cost **BDT21,760.00**.

### Advantages

1. Mature and seasoned wooden pillar would last at least 10-12 years.
2. Wooden pillar lasts 20-25 years, if it is set over wood-wedge.
3. Despite its decay/decomposition in the bottom, better part of the pillar can still be recycled.
4. Expansion of the house and pillar repair is by and large easy.

### Disadvantages

1. Cost is comparatively high.
2. In case the pillar is not made of mature wood and not seasoned, worm-attack is a sure possibility.
3. Pillar part dugged underground succumbs fast to decay/decomposition.

### Maintenance

Maintenance is not required as such; pillar's minimum contact with soil and water should however be ensured.

## Comparative Cost Analysis of Bamboo Pillar, Wooden Pillar and Bamboo-cum-RC Pillar

### Bamboo Pillar

| Item Detail                                 | Quantity | Unit Cost (BDT) | Total Amount (BDT) |
|---|----------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Bamboo pillar for the master house (11'x3") | 16 Ea    | 200.00          | 3,200.00           |
| Bamboo pillar for the balcony (11'x3")      | 04 Ea    | 200.00          | 800.00             |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                          |          |                 | 4,000.00           |

### Wooden Pillar

| Item Detail                                    | Quantity | Unit Cost (BDT) | Total Amount (BDT) |
|--|----------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Wooden pillar for the master house (11'x4"x4") | 16 Ea    | 1,000.00        | 16,000.00          |
| Wooden pillar for the balcony (9'x4"x4")       | 04 Ea    | 1,000.00        | 4,000.00           |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                             |          |                 | 20,000.00          |

### Bamboo-cum-RC Pillar

| Item Detail                                 | Quantity | Unit Cost (BDT) | Total Amount (BDT) |
|---|----------|-----------------|--------------------|
| RC pillar for the master house (12'x4"x4")  | 8 Ea     | 1,700.00        | 13,600.00          |
| RC pillar for the balcony (10'x4"x4")       | 04 Ea    | 1,400.00        | 5,600.00           |
| Bamboo pillar for the master house (11'x3") | 10 Ea    | 200.00          | 2,000.00           |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                          |          |                 | 21,200.00          |

## Session V

### Subject: House Fencing (Fifth Step towards House Construction)

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Objective</b>                  | <p><b>This Session will enable the Participants</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To describe about different types of Fence.</li> <li>2. To explain and distinguish between CI Sheet Fencing and Bamboo Fencing as well as their respective advantages and disadvantage. .</li> <li>3. To describe the technology to be applied and materials to be utilized for sustainable but low-cost CI Sheet Fencing and Bamboo Fencing.</li> <li>4. To explain the disaster risk reduction aspects/issues to be considered in respect of CI Sheet Fencing and Bamboo Fencing and inform others accordingly.</li> <li>5. To reflect on the strategy to care and maintain CI Sheet Fencing and Bamboo Fencing.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Time</b>                       | 70 Minutes  |
| <b>Methodology</b>                | Lecture, Discussion, Group Discussion, Question-Answer, , Picture/Sample/Model display  |
| <b>Materials</b>                  | Board, Poster Paper, Multi-Media (if available), Fence Specimen/Model, Marker, Pen & Writing Book, Handout, etc.  |
| <b>Session Conduction Process</b> | <p><b>Step-I:Time-10 Minutes</b></p> <p>Facilitator will exchange greetings and initiate day's session; at the very outset, s/he will write out <u>the</u> topic and objective on the board or poster paper.</p>  |
|                                   | <p><b>Step-II:Time-20 Minutes</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitator will discuss about the fence, its necessity and importance.</li> <li>2. S/he will reflect on the various types of fence common in different places with the help of multi-media, model/picture display, etc.</li> <li>3. S/he will undertake discussion through question-answer about fence making strategy common in a particular area</li> <li>4. S/he will involve the participants in discussion on respective advantages and disadvantages of CI Sheet fencing and Bamboo fencing .</li> </ol>   |
|                                   | <p><b>Step-III:Time-20 Minutes</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitator will undertake discussion through question-answer on the construction strategy of earthen wall prevalent in the area.</li> <li>2. Following the update on the problems around fencing, he will share with the participants the reasons behind the identified problems and ways to solution thereof.</li> <li>3. S/he will later reflect on, and share with them about, disaster-friendly strategy available from the Caritas-initiated pilot project with the help of multi-media, picture/model display, etc.</li> </ol>  |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Session<br/>Conduction<br/>Process<br/>(Contd.)</b> | <b>Step-IV:Time-10 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will apprise the participants in the light of handout or with the display of picture/model which matters/issues need to be considered to reduce disaster risk around fencing.  |
|  | <b>Step-V:Time-10 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will seek participants idea/knowledge of the following as part of evaluation process through question-answer: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is a disaster-friendly house? What are the advantages and disadvantages of the fence meant for such a house?</li> <li>2. What kinds of sustainable technology are applicable to preparing fence in the area?</li> <li>3. What materials/ingredients are required to ensure more sustainable fence?</li> <li>4. What matters/issues are relevant for consideration around disaster risk reduction while preparing a fence?</li> </ol> <p>S/he might be required to reiterate points/issues as he deems appropriate for the sake of participants clarity; then s/he will wrap up the session with vote of thanks</p> |

## **Facilitator's Guide**

### **(House Fencing)**

#### **Wall/Fence**

Wall/Fence covers the house from all sides as well as the area in-between the floor and the ceiling. Wall or fence of a house ensures safety and privacy of the life and property of the insiders. We come across various types of wall and fence based on custom/practice in the area and materials/ingredients available there; like, bamboo fence, CI Sheet fence, CI Sheet-cum-bamboo fence, wooden fence, fence made out of jute stick, fence from Ekor (a local variety of sun-grass), fence from straw (a country ingredient), fence from Taty (a country variety), earthen wall, brick wall, etc. A house is again subdivided in the form of rooms by way of partition wall or fencing partition.

#### **Bamboo Fence**

##### **Characteristic Detail**

1. A mature Mulee bamboo (a local variety) needs to be divided into two parts for the purpose of fence.
2. Back part of the mature Mulee bamboo is utilized for outside fence of the house and front part is meant for partition fence. This bamboo can also be used in preparing the front side fence of the house to accommodate balcony.
3. Fence is to be modeled on the measurement of the house.
4. Fence made of mature bamboo is tied by string/thin nylon rope/thin plastic rope at one foot interlude with provision of at least one inch width knot on both the sides.
5. There can be two or three parts of a house fence: tin can form the bottom part of the fence from floor to lower tip of the window measuring 2'-6" feet in height, the middle part comprising the area from the bottom part of the window to the top of the door might be made of bamboo and the remaining part towards the top can be prepared by thin split bamboo part.

##### **Construction Strategy**

1. Seasoned bamboo has to be utilized. For that purpose, bamboo has to be submerged in water for 21 (twenty-one) days and dried later for 07 (seven) days in the sun prior to use.
2. Three-pronged/two-pronged splits of mature bamboo have to be tight-fastened according to the size of the house.
3. Coarse bamboo mat fence is to be prepared and suitably tight-fastened according to the size of the house (in the light of the picture).
4. Tin fencing at the bottom is to be set inward of the house and bamboo fencing at the upper part is to be placed outward.
5. Corners of the fence are to be suitably tied and bamboo laths or old tyre have to be placed at corner-joints; this will ensure effectiveness of fencing knots and people will feel safe against any odds.

6. Rows of bricks / long wood / long bamboo are to be used at the bottom of the lower part of the fence; wooden door might be used, if necessary.
7. Fence is to be tied to each pillar of the house using wire/nylon rope/plastic rope.
8. Tin fencing of 22-24mm thickness is to be used at the lower part of the fence.
9. 1" thick x 2" width wooden battum has to be used vertically for tin fencing.
10. Batten has to be nailed every two feet. In case of fence, it has to be nailed below CI saheet's wave area; tin's forepart has to be aligned with batten.
11. Tar/paint should be applied to the lower portion of the CI sheet-fence; colour CI sheet can alternatively be used. This will protect the lower portion of the fence from early damage owing to rain water and contact with soil.



## Pictures depicting issues/matters relevant to Fence



Picture. 68: Use of seasoned bamboo is a valid deterrent against worm-attack. For that purpose, bamboo has to be submerged in water for =21= days and dried later for =07= days in the sun prior to use



Picture. 69: Three-pronged/two-pronged fence made out of mature bamboo splits



Picture. 70: Coarse bamboo mat fence to be prepared to attain a tight-fastened fence



Picture. 71: CI sheet fencing at the bottom is to be set inward of the house and bamboo fencing at the upper part is to be placed outward, so as to prevent rain-water inside

## Pictures depicting issues/matters relevant to Fence



Pictures 72 & 73: Corners of the fence are to be suitably tied and bamboo laths or old tyres have to be placed at corner-joints; this will ensure effectiveness of fencing knots and people will feel safe against any odds



Picture 74: Placement of rows of bricks / long wood / long bamboo at the bottom of the lower part of the fence will by and large keep the tin rust-free

Picture. 75: Application of tar at the lower portion of the tin-fence will protect the lower portion of the fence from early damage owing to rain water and contact with soil

## Partition

Partition separates two rooms of the house by wall or fence. Partition provides for maintenance of privacy. It is indispensable for female and male as well as for children's education.

Partition is formed in the house out of one or more of the following: wooden fence, bamboo fence, CI sheet fence, jute stick fence, ekore fence, straw fence, tati fence, brick wall, earthen wall, etc.

### Comparative Cost Analysis of Fence prepared with (i) bamboo and CI Sheet, (ii) CI Sheet, and (iii) brick and CI Sheet

#### House Fence from Bamboo-cum-CI Sheet

| Item Detail             | Quantity | Unit Price (BDT) | Total Amount (BDT) |
|-------------------------|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| Bamboo mat              | 168 Cft. | 20.00            | 3,360.00           |
| CI Sheet –0.23 mm/8 Ft. | 13 Ea    | 400.00           | 5,200.00           |
| Wood (1.50"x1.00")      | 1.50     | 1,000.00         | 1,500.00           |
| Masonry Charges         | 1        | 1,000.00         | 1,000.00           |
| <b>Grand Total</b>      |          |                  | <b>11,060.00</b>   |

#### House Fence from CI Sheet

| Item Detail            | Quantity | Unit Price (BDT) | Total Amount (BDT) |
|------------------------|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| CI Sheet –0.23mm/8 Ft. | 30 Ea    | 400.00           | 12,000.00          |
| Wood (1.50"x1.00")     | 3        | 1,000.00         | 3,000.00           |
| Masonry Charges        | 1        | 1,000.00         | 1,000.00           |
| <b>Grand Total</b>     |          |                  | <b>16,000.00</b>   |

#### House Fence from Brick-cum-CI Sheet

| Item Detail             | Quantity | Unit Price (BDT) | Total Amount (BDT) |
|-------------------------|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| Brick, etc., area       | 140 Cft. | 100.00           | 14,000.00          |
| CI Sheet –0.23 mm/8 Ft. | 13 Ea    | 400.00           | 5,200.00           |
| Wood (1.50"x1.00")      | 1.50     | 1,000.00         | 1,500.00           |
| Masonry Charges         | 1        | 1,000.00         | 1,000.00           |
| <b>Grand Total</b>      |          |                  | <b>21,700.00</b>   |

## Session VI

### Subject: Doors and Windows (Sixth Step towards House Construction)

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Objective</b>                  | <p><b>This Session will enable the Participants</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To describe about the importance of Doors and Windows.</li> <li>2. To narrate about site selection and preparation strategy of Doors and Windows.</li> <li>3. To describe about advantages, disadvantages and cost involving Doors and Windows.</li> <li>4. To explain the disaster risk reduction aspects/issues to be considered in respect of Doors and Windows and inform others accordingly.</li> <li>5. To describe how to maintain Doors and Windows.</li> </ol>   |
| <b>Time</b>                       | 50 Minutes  |
| <b>Methodology</b>                | Lecture, Discussion, Question-Answer, Experience sharing and Picture/Sample/Model display of Doors and Windows  |
| <b>Materials</b>                  | Marker, Masking Tape, Pin, Brown Paper, Specimen/Picture of Doors and Windows, etc.   |
| <b>Session Conduction Process</b> | <p><b>Step-I: Time-5 Minutes</b><br/>Facilitator will exchange greetings and initiate day's session; at the very outset, s/he will write out the topic and objective on the board or poster paper.</p>  |
|                                   | <p><b>Step-II: Time-20 Minutes</b><br/> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitator will discuss about various types of doors and windows and their necessity.</li> <li>2. S/he will reflect on construction strategy of doors and windows as well as their importance and cost.</li> </ol> </p>  |
|                                   | <p><b>Step-III: Time-15 Minutes</b><br/>Facilitator will discuss about disaster risk reduction strategy in respect of doors and windows and explain with the help of picture.</p>   |
|                                   | <p><b>Step-IV: Time-10 Minutes</b><br/>Facilitator will seek participants understanding of the following as part of evaluation process through question-answer:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are the importance, advantages and disadvantages of the doors and windows?</li> <li>2. What needs to be done to reduce disaster risk around doors and windows?</li> </ol> <p>S/he might be required to reiterate points/issues as he deems appropriate for the sake of participants clarity; then s/he will wrap up the session with vote of thanks.</p> |



## **Facilitator's Guide**

### **(Doors and Windows)**

#### **Door**

Door is required to enter in the house, facilitate entry of adequate wind and light inside as well as ensure security and privacy of all. Local custom/practice and availability of materials/ingredients determine the type, nature and shape of the door. Door consists of a door-frame and a door-shutter. Wooden door is common in average rural area of Bangladesh; Steel doors are also getting popular now-a-days. Each house should have at least two doors.

#### **Window**

Window is indispensable to facilitate adequate wind and light inside. Grill and/or sticks are set in the window to refrain anybody from entering inside and prevent any theft; window-shutters are meant to ensure privacy and shield against untimely air and sunlight as well as rain water. Local custom/practice and availability of required materials/ingredients determine the type, nature and shape of the window. Wooden window is however common in average rural area. It is advisable to have at least two windows in a room to facilitate adequate and regular flow of air and light as and when suitable.



Picture 76: One window needs to be set opposite to another so as to facilitate adequate wind-flow

### Characteristic Detail

1. Generally, one door is set in the front of the house and another in the rear or at the side; again, a connecting door is in place in the adjacent room.
2. Door height is generally 6' to 7' feet and its breadth varies between 2'-6" to 3' feet.
3. Cross-section of the door-frame assumes various measurement: 2"x 2.5", 2"x 3" inch and 2.5"x3" inch
4. Thickness of the door-shutter is generally 1"x1.5" inch
5. "Z" batten or panel door is used.
6. 3" to 5" inch size hinges and 4" to 6" inch size hook/shackles/ring are set in the door for its opening and closing
7. One- or two-part door and window are used as per custom/practice in the area; people are accustomed to four-part window, too.
8. Window height is generally 3' to 4' feet and breadth 2'-6" to 4' feet or more; window is set 2'-6" to 3' feet above the plinth level
9. Cross-section of window-frame assumes various sizes: 2"x1.5" inch in case of bamboo fence and 2"x2.5" inch or 2.5"x3" inch in case of earthen wall. Thickness of window-shutter is generally 1"-1.5" inch
10. 3" inch size hinges and 4" inch size hook are used in the window. In addition, shackles/ring/wooden fastener/cramp is also used.
11. Variety of wood is used for doors and windows depending on local availability. It must however be *sari kath* (local term), signifying wood possessing kernel/substance and/or quality timber

### Construction Strategy

1. Seasoned timber of mature tree has to be used as per local custom/practice.
2. Doors and windows made by seasoned timber last almost five times more.
3. Doors and windows are treated with enamel paint for beautification and sustainability as well as to counter insect-attack and damage from water. Anointing with brownish oil at minimum cost adds to sustainability, too.
4. Shutters should be set inside the house.
5. One window needs to be placed opposite to another so as to facilitate adequate wind-flow.
6. Additionally, windows should be set in suitable location to accommodate convenience of the neighbours

### Time-frame and Cost:

Four days should be required to make out and set two doors and four windows in a house measuring 18' feet long and 10' feet wide; total cost would come to **BDT15,000:** BDT7,000.00 for doors and BDT8,000.00 for windows.

### Advantages

1. Adequate light and wind are available in the house and healthy environment prevails.
2. Safety and security of life and property as well as dwellers privacy are ensured.
3. Closure of both door-shutters and window-shutters in the winter protects the inmates against cold.
4. Doors and windows prevent water surge inside the house during rains and storm.

### Disadvantages

1. Doors and windows might be vulnerable to wood-louse attack
2. Expansion and contraction of door-shutters and window-shutters during winter and summer might deform the shutters affecting smooth opening and closure thereof.

### Maintenance

Time to time application of kerosene or turpentine oil to door and window frames and shutters might prevent wood-louse attack.

Prompt repair of any damaged part of the window is advisable.

### Comparative Cost Analysis of House Doors and Windows prepared with various constituting ingredients

#### Door and Window made of Wood

| Item Detail  | Quantity | Unit Price (BDT) | Total Amount (BDT) |
|--|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Door</b> 2.50'x6.50'<br>*Mehagony wood,<br>thickness of door-<br>shutter 1", door-<br>frame 3"x2.50"                | 02 Ea    | 3,500.00         | 7,000.00           |
| <b>Window with Grill</b><br>3'x2.50' *Mehagony<br>wood, thickness of<br>window-shutter<br>0.75", window-frame<br>2"x2" | 04 Ea    | 2,000.00         | 8,000.00           |
| <b>Grand Total</b>   |          |                  | <b>15,000.00</b>   |

\*A common tree in this part of the globe prominent for quality timber



### Door and Window made of Steel

| Item Detail  | Quantity | Unit Price (BDT) | Total Amount (BDT) |
|--|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Door</b> 2.50'x6.50' MS Sheet thickness of door-shutter 22 Gauge, door-frame 1.50"x1.50" with MS Angle 3mm                        | 02 Ea    | 5,000.00         | 10,000.00          |
| <b>Window with Grill</b> 3'x2.50' MS Sheet thickness of window-shutter 22 Gauge, window-frame 0.75"x0.75", thickness of MS Angle 2mm | 04 Ea    | 2,000.00         | 8,000.00           |
| <b>Grand Total</b>   |          |                  | <b>18,000.00</b>   |

### Door and Window made of CI Sheet-cum-Wooden Frame

| Item Detail  | Quantity | Unit Price (BDT) | Total Amount (BDT) |
|--|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Door</b> 2.50'x6.50', Tin door-shutter and wooden door-frame    | 02 Ea    | 1,650.00         | 3,300.00           |
| <b>Window</b> 3'x2.50', Tin window-shutter and wooden window-frame | 04 Ea    | 800.00           | 3,200.00           |
| <b>Grand Total</b>   |          |                  | <b>6,500.00</b>    |

## Session VII

### Subject: House Truss and Shed (Seventh Step towards House Construction)

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Objective</b>                  | <b>This Session will enable the Participants</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To describe about house Truss and Shed and their preparing strategy.</li> <li>2. To narrate in sequence about the type and measurement of wood to prepare Truss and Shed.</li> <li>3. To learn and describe about wood, cost, sustainability and maintenance of easily and locally available wood.</li> <li>4. To explain the disaster risk reduction aspects/issues to be considered in respect of preparing Truss and Shed and inform others accordingly.</li> </ol>  |
| <b>Time</b>                       | 70 Minutes   |
| <b>Methodology</b>                | Lecture, Discussion, Question-Answer, Group Discussion and Picture/Sample/Model display.   |
| <b>Materials</b>                  | Board, Multi-media, Handout, Poster Paper, Marker, Pen-Writing Pad, Cork Sheet, Wood-Bits, Nails, Hammer, Specimen/Model of Shed   |
| <b>Session Conduction Process</b> | <b>Step-I: Time-10 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will exchange greetings and initiate day's session; at the very outset, s/he will write out the topic and objective on the board or poster paper.  |
|                                   | <b>Step-II: Time-20 Minutes</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitator will discuss about house truss and shed, their necessity and importance.</li> <li>2. S/he will reflect on different types of truss and shed common in various areas through multi-media or picture or drawing on the board.</li> <li>3. S/he will initiate participatory discussion on the utility of truss and shed.</li> <li>4. S/he will then gradually engage in discussion on various houses we live in and their importance by way of picture display in multi-media; discussion will also cover the measurement of the shed of a strong and disaster-friendly house (bracing/wall plate/top tie).</li> <li>5. Lastly, discussion will reflect on wood measurement in different parts of a disaster-friendly house, estimated cost of various measurements of wood as well as wood treatment and maintenance.</li> </ol> |
|                                   | <b>Step-III: Time-20 Minutes</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitator will resort to question-answer to discuss on the construction strategy of truss and shed as prevailing in the area.</li> <li>2. After knowing the problems around the truss and shed, he will share the reasons behind such problems and way to solutions thereof.</li> <li>3. Later, s/he will share the disaster-friendly technology available from the Caritas-implemented pilot project by way of multi-media/picture/model.</li> </ol>   |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Session<br/>Conduction<br/>Process<br/>(Contd.)</b> | <b>Step-IV:Time-10 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will reflect on disaster risk reduction strategy in respect of truss and shed and share the same with the participants in the light of the handout and with the help of picture/model   |
|  | <b>Step-V:Time-10 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will seek participants word on the following as part of evaluation process through question-answer: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the importance of truss and shed in house construction?</li> <li>2. Where are the rafter, bracing, runner, wall plate, etc., used and what would be their respective measurement?</li> <li>3. Which sustainable technology is relevant to truss and shed common in the area?</li> <li>4. What materials/ingredients are required to enhance the sustainability of truss and shed?</li> <li>5. What measures need to be considered for disaster risk reduction while preparing truss and shed?</li> <li>6. What are the ways to maintain low-cost truss and shed?</li> </ol> <p>S/he might be required to reiterate points/issues as he deems appropriate for the sake of participants clarity; then s/he will wrap up the session with vote of thanks.</p> |

## **Facilitator's Guide**

### **(Roof Truss and Shed)**

#### **Roof Truss/Shed**

Some kind of sheet is placed on wall and/or pillars of a house to cover it; roof truss is the frame set on the wall/pillars for such covering. Covering is placed on the roof truss or shed. Roof Truss/Shed is very indispensable and important for the house. Roof Truss/Shed might be made of bamboo, wood, iron angle, etc., based on landlord's financial capacity, local disaster perspective, local custom/practice, etc.

#### **Vital Parts of Roof Truss/Shed**

##### **Wall Plate**

Wall plate is placed on the main wall or the pillar of the house. Wall Plate keeps the roof truss/shed complete with tie-beam, rafter, bracing, etc., in tact as well as transfers the weight of the roof truss onto the wall or pillar.

#### **Construction Strategy of the Wall Plate**

1. Wall Plate must be formed of mature wood or bamboo.
2. Wall Plate size differs on account of the materials/elements used: 3"x2" inch for wood, 3" inch dia for bamboo, 1.5"x1.5"x0.125" inch for iron angle.
3. There should not be any joint in case of wood within 10' feet; and grooved lap joint needs to be used where the length is more than 10' feet.
4. Where RC pillar matters, wall plate is to be tied tight with an extended rod on its top; or perforated wall plate is to be fitted tight with nut and bolt.
5. In case of bamboo wall, wall plate has to be tied tight with the carved U-type groove atop the bamboo using GI wire or nylon rope.
6. As to brick wall, bolt is to be placed atop the wall and tied tight with perforated wall plate through nut.
7. Additional or visible part of wire, rod, angle and nut has to be painted with anti-corrosive colour so as to control rust.
8. Wood and bamboo have to be seasoned before use to make it sustainable and long lasting.
9. Brownish oil or Kerosene oil or burnt Mobil is to be smeared/polished with wood and bamboo as a measure to baulk insect-attack.
10. Anti-corrosive paint is to be used in respect of angle.

## Protection of roof



Picture.77: Strategy to prevent house shed from being blown away by strong wind

### Cross Beam/Tie Beam

Cross-beams and Tie-beams are utilized to hold in safety the roof truss/shed made of rafter and clamp/purlin for covering the house and also to transfer its weight onto the wall or pillar. They are also used to set the ceiling properly. In addition, cross-beam and tie-beam have a contributory role to retain the truss/shed in its designated location as well as to combat any twist or movement in the face of wind. King post or Queen post is placed on the cross-beam and tie-beam.

### Construction Strategy of Cross-beam / Tie-beam

1. Cross-beam and Tie-beam are sourced from wood, bamboo and angle.
2. Wood or bamboo must be mature to make cross-beam and tie-beam.
3. Wood or bamboo has to be seasoned prior to use for the sake of longevity and sustainability.
4. Their size varies in view of the breadth of the house. Upto the breadth of 11' feet, cross-beam and tie-beam will be of minimum 5"x2" inch size for wood, at least 3" dia for bamboo and at least 1.5"x1.5"x0.125" inch for iron angle
5. Where the breadth is between 11' feet and 13' feet, cross-beam and tie-beam will be minimum of 5"x3" inch size for wood, minimum 3" dia for bamboo and minimum 2"x2" inch for iron angle.
6. Avoidance of joints in cross-beam and tie-beam is advisable, and lap joint is suggested in case of compulsion.
7. Their number is generally dependent on the total number of rafters.

8. In respect of wood, twisted nails are required to set cross-beams and tie-beams with the wall plate, and twisted nails would have to be screw-driven into the wall plate and not beaten or thrashed. Resultantly, the tie will not be loosened or unfastened in the face of wind. Simple nails may be used in other points/places.
9. Brownish oil or Kerosene oil or burnt Mobil is to be smeared/polished with wood and bamboo as a measure to control insect-attack.
10. Anti-corrosive paint is to be used in respect of angle.

### **Rafter**

Rafter is set on the wall plate to place house covering and other parts on the latter. Roof truss/shed along with the clamp/purlin is built on the rafter. Avoidance of joints in making out rafter is indispensable.

### **Construction Strategy of Rafter**

1. Rafter must be formed from mature wood or bamboo.
2. Rafter size varies as per the breadth of the house. Upto the breadth of 11' feet, rafter will be of minimum 2"x2" inch size for wood, minimum 3" dia for bamboo and at least 1.5"x1.5"x0.125" inch for iron angle
3. Where the breadth is between 11' feet and 13' feet, rafter will be minimum of 2.5"x2.5" inch size for wood, minimum 2.75" dia for bamboo and minimum 2"x2"x0.1875 inch for iron angle.
4. Where the house is within 11' feet breadth, top-tie has to be used to hold two rafters in safety and to contain excessive wind pressure. Size of the top-tie will have to be compatible to that of the clamp/purlin. Top tie has to be set at the confluence of two rafters and 1/3 (one-third) height distance of tie beam (above the meeting point of two rafters).
5. King Post is to be set if the breadth of the house exceeds 11' feet and Queen Post is to be set if the breadth of the house exceeds 13' feet; Size of the king post and queen post should be the same as rafter's size.
6. Placement of rafter is dependent on its size: it is generally set every 2.5' feet.
7. Wood Rafter and Bamboo Rafter may be alternatively placed as a measure to minimize cost.
8. 04 (four) corner-rafters have to be in place in respect of four-sided roof truss/shed. Where the breadth of the house is 11' feet, two rafters each of the size 2.5"x2.5" inch minimum for wood and 1.5"x1.5"x0.1875 inch minimum for iron angle have to be fixed; and in case of the house having 11' to 13' feet breadth, two rafters each of the size 3"x3" inch minimum for wood and 2"x2"x0.1875 inch minimum for iron angle have to be fixed.
9. Rafter has to be fixed with wooden and bamboo wall plate using twisted nail; and twisted nails would have to be screw-driven into the wall plate and not beaten or thrashed; rafters have to be fastened at the same time with the wall plate through the harrycane strip. As a result, detachment of the both out of wind pressure will have scant possibility. Simple nails might be used in other points/locations.
10. At least two nails have to be inserted in any joint; one-nail joint will be very weak.
11. Wooden corner rafter is better to be used for bamboo rafter

12. Where iron angle matters, rafter is to be fixed with wall plate through nut and bolt or welding.
13. And in respect of bamboo, rafter is to be fixed with wall plate through wire, nylon rope, rope, etc.
14. Anti-corrosive paint is to be applied to the visible/additional parts of the wire, rod, angle, nut and bolt, etc. , so as to control rust.
15. Seasoned timber and bamboo have to be used to make for sustainable and long-lasting rafter.
16. Brownish oil or Kerosine oil or burnt mobil is to be smeared/polished with wood and bamboo as a measure to resist insect-attack.
17. Anti-corrosive paint is to be applied in respect of angle.

### **Clamp/Purlin**

Clamp/Purlin is set on the Rafter to place the roof truss/shed of the house. Wooden or angle clamp/purlin is generally used.

#### **Construction Strategy of Clamp/Purlin**

1. Clamp/Purlin is to be sourced from mature wood.
2. Wooden clamp/purlin is to be used for both wooden and bamboo rafter.
3. Clamp/Purlin size for wood and angle will be respectively minimum 2.5"x1" inch and 1.5"x1.5"x0.125" inch
4. Size and number of clamps/purlins will depend on rafter's length and distance.
5. Seasoned timber has to be used to ensure sustainable and long-lasting clamp/purlin.
6. Brownish oil or Kerosine oil or burnt mobil is to be smeared/polished with wood as a measure to resist insect-attack.
7. Anti-corrosive paint is to be applied in respect of angle.

### **Comparative Cost Analysis relevant to framing House Truss and Shed**

#### **House Truss and Shed made of Wood**

| Item Detail  | Quantity    | Unit Price (BDT) | Total Amount (BDT) |
|--|-------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Wood *Mehogany, *Rain-tree, *Eucalyptus (size as per design) | 29.436 Cft. | 800.00           | 23,548.00          |
| <b>Grand Total</b>   |             |                  | <b>23,548.00</b>   |

#### **House Truss and Shed made of MS Angle**

| Item Detail                             | Quantity | Unit Price (BDT) | Total Amount (BDT) |
|---|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| Ms angle measuring (1.5"x1.5"x3 mm Dia) | 275 Ea   | 65.00            | 17,875.00          |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                      |          |                  | <b>17,875.00</b>   |



## Session VIII

### Subject: House Roof/Covering/Canopy (Eighth Step towards House Construction)

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Objective</b>                  | <b>This Session will enable the Participants</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To describe about House Roof/Covering and its importance.</li> <li>2. To narrate the technique and strategy of framing a House Roof/Covering.</li> <li>3. To reflect on the utility of living under a disaster-resilient House Roof/Covering.</li> <li>4. To describe clearly about the maintenance of a House Roof/Covering.</li> <li>5. To explain the disaster risk reduction aspects/issues to be considered in respect of preparing a House Roof/Covering and inform others accordingly.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Time</b>                       | 50 Minutes  |
| <b>Methodology</b>                | Lecture, Discussion, Question-Answer, Displaying the ingredients/materials for house roof/covering and Experience sharing   |
| <b>Materials</b>                  | Board, Marker, Masking Tape, Pin, Brown Paper, Nails, Ingredients/Materials for preparing a house roof/covering   |
| <b>Session Conduction Process</b> | <b>Step-I:Time-5 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will exchange greetings and initiate day's session; at the very outset, s/he will write out the topic and objective on the board or poster paper.   |
|                                   | <b>Step-II:Time-20 Minutes</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitator will attempt at a definition of house roof/covering, reflect on its various types, its importance, display the ingredients/materials required to prepare a house roof/covering as well as its cost.</li> <li>2. S/he will narrate the strategies of setting a house roof/covering and practically demonstrate these with the help of picture.</li> <li>3. Lastly, s/he will deal with the utility of the house roof/covering.</li> </ol>   |
|                                   | <b>Step-III:Time-15 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will resort to practical demonstration or picture display to narrate what aspects/issues are relevant to disaster risk reduction while preparing a house roof/covering.  |
|                                   | <b>Step-IV:Time-10 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will seek participants understanding of the following as part of evaluation process through question-answer: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is a house roof/covering, its importance, advantages and disadvantages?</li> <li>2. What measures need to be considered for disaster risk reduction while preparing house roof/covering?</li> </ol> <p>S/he might be required to reiterate points/issues as he deems appropriate for the sake of participants clarity; then s/he will wrap up the session with vote of thanks.</p>        |

## Facilitator's Guide

### (House Roof)

#### House Roof/Covering

House Roof/Covering acts as a canopy over the house truss/shed built on the wall or pillars. We find various kinds of house roof framed with different materials like dry straw, *chhawn pata* (local variety)/dry leaves, jute stick, bamboo splits, polythene, asbestos sheet, colour sheet, CI sheet, RC materials, etc., depending on: financial ability of the landlord, house type, local hazard perspective, local custom/practice, etc.

#### Construction Strategy

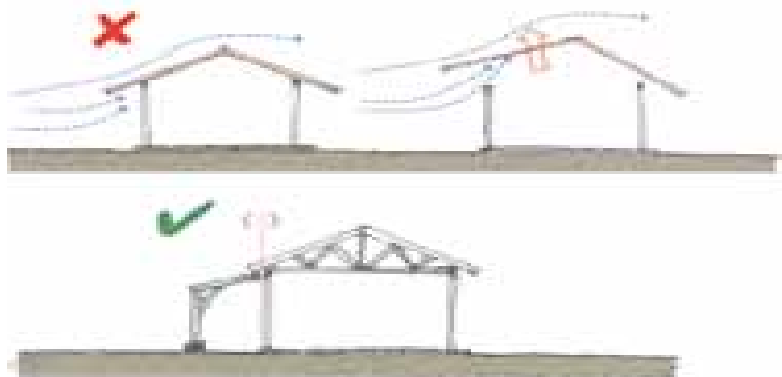
1. House Roof is developed with the materials like dry straw, *chhawn pata*/dry leaves, jute stick, bamboo splits, polythene, asbestos sheet, colour sheet, CI sheet, RC materials, etc., to act as a canopy covering the clamp/purlin of the house truss.
2. **House Roof formed with one or the other of dry straw, *chhawn pata*/dry leaves, jute stick, bamboo splits:** dry straw or *chhawn pata*/dry leaves or jute stick or bamboo splits, etc., have to be spread all over the clamp/purlin of the house truss and strongly tied with jute rope, nylon rope, plastic rope, bamboo cane, galvanized wire, etc.. Later, there has to be another round of materials setting in the same way on the first line, sparing half or some part/area of the line (previous lining); full house truss will thus be covered in stages with house roof.
3. **House Roof formed with polythene:** polythene sheet has to be spread all over the house truss (except clamp/purlin) and strongly tied with bamboo splits, jute rope, nylon rope, plastic rope, galvanized wire, etc., to make out the covering of the full house truss.
4. **House Roof formed with colour sheet or CI sheet:** one line 1.5 wave lapping by colour sheet or CI sheet has to be completed over the clamp/purlin of the house truss and strongly tied with clamp/purlin using roofing screws or nails. Later, at least 6" inch portion of upper part of the first line has to be filled-in, or otherwise lapped, and colour sheet or CI sheet is tied in the same way in the second round. Full house truss will thus be covered in stages with house roof. Upper meeting part at the four corners of the roof is to be linked / adjusted with ridding roofing screw to effect above.
5. Colour sheet or CI sheet is to be set properly with meticulous calculation/measurement at the four corners of the roof in case of four-side roof to complete house roof. The sheets have to be carefully handled while chopping, so that left-over part of the sheet is not wasted away.
6. Anti-corrosive paint is to be applied to CI sheet to guard against any rust and extend house roof longevity.
7. Roofing screws have to be screw-driven, and not thrashed into, the Colour sheet or CI sheet in all areas including the cyclone and storm belt. Nut has to be used along with washer; dented nails might also be tried. Part of the nail stretched/extended below the wood has to be bent.
8. In addition to Colour sheet or CI sheet, there has to be at least 1.5 wave lapping and one horizontal lapping of minimum 6" inch over another lapping.

9. Rafter wood has to be extended 2" inch below from the terminal portion of Colour sheet or CI sheet (rafter top to be slopped from the sheet).
10. Each CI sheet must contain 03 (three) roofing screws/horizontal nailing; there has to be at least three-line roofing screw/nailing for 9' feet long sheet.
11. House roof needs to be set at minimum 30-degree and maximum 40-degree angle as a measure to prevent the roof from being blown away in the face of wind.
12. For the same reason, house roof should be four-sided rather than two-sided.
13. House roof has to be strongly tied with the main house framework to get away from damage out of severe wind pressure.
14. The less is the extended part of the house roof, possibility of wind-triggered damage is scant.
15. All the constituting parts of the house roof have to be properly fixed / adjusted with the walls. Roof is to be strongly fixed with ring beam utilizing galvanized nut-bolt, screw, nails and other metal frame. House roof rafter has to be directly fixed with ring beam through harrycane strap.
16. Two rafters at the top have to be fixed side by side using harrycane strap.
17. CI sheet has to be strongly fixed using adequate number of galvanizing roofing screws as well as dented iron as a measure of protection against wind.
18. Balcony has to be separate from the main house, so that the latter is not damaged even if the balcony is blown away out of wind
19. Joints in the wood have to be strong and impregnable. Wood frame has to be properly anchored within the foundation through nut and bolt, so that frame is not de-linked from the base.

## Pictures depicting issues/matters relevant to House Roof



Picture. 78: House roof should be four-sided rather than two-sided as a measure to prevent the roof from being blown away in the face of wind (Sketch Credit-IFRC)



Picture. 79: House roof has to be strongly tied with the main house framework to avoid damage whatsoever out of severe wind pressure (Sketch Credit-IFRC)

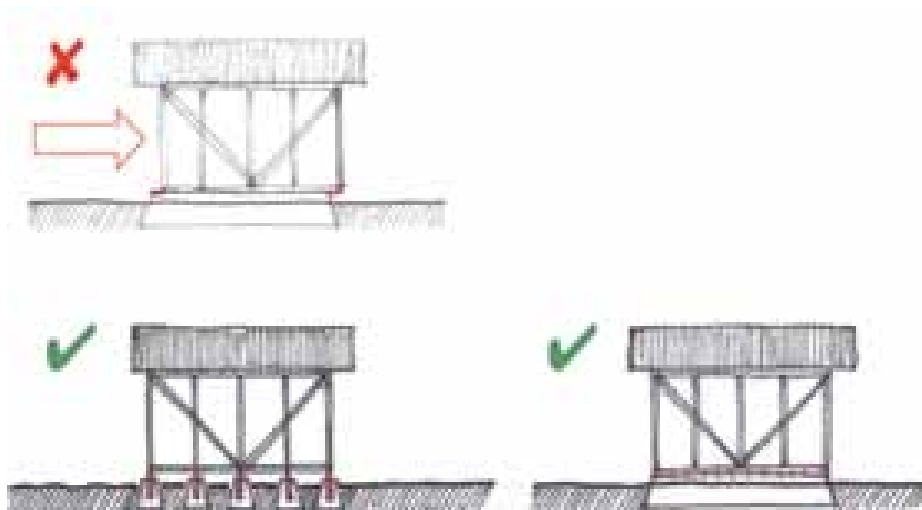


Picture. 80: If the extended part of the house roof is between 8" inch to 1' feet, possibility of wind-triggered damage is scant (Sketch Credit-IFRC)

## Pictures depicting issues/matters relevant to House Roof

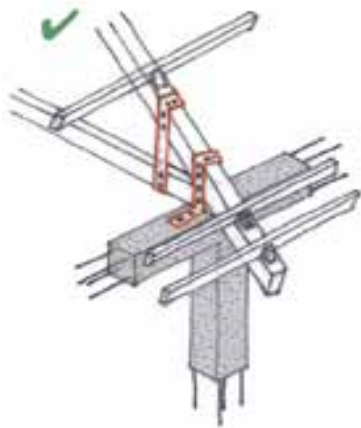


Picture. 81: House roof needs to be set at minimum 30-degree and maximum 40-degree angle as a measure to prevent the roof from being blown away in the face of wind (Sketch Credit-IFRC)

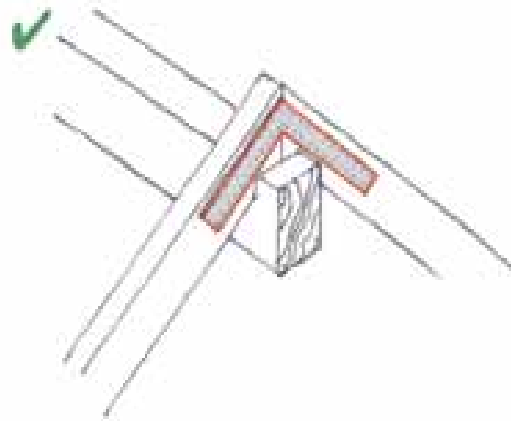


Picture. 82: Joints in the wood have to be strong and impregnable; wood-frame has to be properly anchored within the foundation through nut and bolt, so that frame is not de-linked from the base. (Sketch Credit-IFRC)

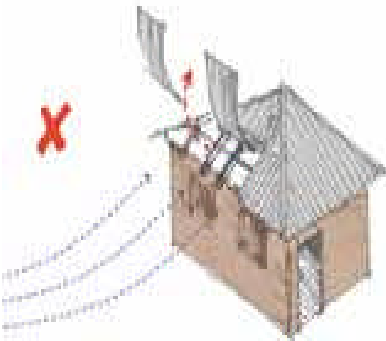
## Pictures depicting issues/matters relevant to House Roof



Picture. 83: House roof rafter has to be directly fixed with ring beam through harrycane strap (Sketch Credit-IFRC)



Picture. 84: Two rafters at the top have to be fixed side by side using harrycane strap (Sketch Credit-IFRC)



Picture. 85: CI sheet has to be strongly fixed using adequate number of galvanized roofing screws and dented iron as a measure of protection against wind (Sketch Credit-IFRC)



Picture. 86: Balcony has to be separate from the main house, so that the latter is not damaged even if the balcony is blown away out of wind (Sketch Credit-IFRC)

### Estimated Cost of House Roof made of CI Sheet

| Item Detail  | Quantity | Unit Price (BDT) | Total Amount (BDT) |
|--|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| CI Sheet for main House and Balcony 320mm/8' feet                                      | 27 Ea    | 650.00           | 17,550.00          |
| House Tua 260mm/6' feet  | 10 Ea    | 200.00           | 2,000.00           |
| Materials required for house roof fitting (screw, nail, rubber washer, nut-bolt, etc.) | Lump Sum |                  | 3,000.00           |
| Fitting Charge including Truss   | Lump Sum |                  | 7,000.00           |
| <b>Grand Total</b>   |          |                  | <b>29,550.00</b>   |

## Session IX

### Subject: House Bracing (Ninth Step towards House Construction)

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Objective</b>                  | <p><b>This Session will enable the Participants</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To describe about House Bracing and its importance.</li> <li>2. To narrate the technique and strategy of bracing.</li> <li>3. To note about the advantages, disadvantages and cost of House Bracing.</li> <li>4. To explain which way of House Bracing will lead to disaster risk reduction in the area and inform others accordingly.</li> <li>5. To describe clearly about the maintenance of a House Bracing.</li> </ol>   |
| <b>Time</b>                       | 50 Minutes  |
| <b>Methodology</b>                | Lecture, Discussion, Question-Answer, Displaying the ingredients/materials relevant to bracing and Experience sharing   |
| <b>Materials</b>                  | Board, Marker, Masking Tape, Pin, Brown Paper, Nails, Wood, Hammer, Saw, Bracing Model  |
| <b>Session Conduction Process</b> | <p><b>Step-I: Time-5 Minutes</b></p> <p>Facilitator will exchange greetings and initiate day's session; at the very outset, s/he will write out the topic and objective on the board or poster paper.</p>   |
|                                   | <p><b>Step-II: Time-20 Minutes</b></p> <p>Facilitator will provide a definition of bracing, its importance and utility as well as explain various strategies of formulating a bracing with the help of its model.</p>   |
|                                   | <p><b>Step-III: Time-15 Minutes</b></p> <p>Facilitator will resort to practical demonstration or picture display to narrate what aspects/issues are relevant to disaster risk reduction while preparing a bracing.</p>  |
|                                   | <p><b>Step-IV: Time-10 Minutes</b></p> <p>Facilitator will seek participants perception on the following as part of evaluation process through question-answer:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is a bracing, its importance, advantages and disadvantages?</li> <li>2. What measures need to be considered for disaster risk reduction while formulating a bracing?</li> </ol> <p>S/he might be required to reiterate points/issues as he deems appropriate for the sake of participants clarity; then s/he will wrap up the session with vote of thanks.</p> |

#### Tip for the Facilitator

The Facilitator is required to consult various books, reports, updates, etc., relating to this topic apart from the module in order to gain clear concept of the subject matter; he might also try to collect any other relevant case-study to bolster his perception.



## Facilitator's Guide (House Bracing)

### Cross Bracing

Cross Bracing is set with wood in a slanting direction between two pillars of the house. Cross bracing is effected by diagonally placing the wooden element across the two pillars dug in the two corners of the house according to the picture. Wood size in this respect would be 3"x2.5" inch. Thick and coarse rope or thin wire may also be used for cross bracing.

Bondage between two pillars resulting from cross bracing prevents any leaning or movement of the house in the face of storm or severe wind. Bracing has to be vertical, diagonal and corner-wise to fetch a firm wood-frame. In the same way, there has to be plenty of vertical, diagonal and corner-wise bracings to ensure a firm house fencing.

### Estimated Cost of Cross Bracing

| Item Detail                | Quantity | Unit Price (BDT) | Total Amount (BDT) |
|----------------------------|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| Wood 14' long and 5" dia   | 4 Ea     | 1,200.00         | 4,800.00           |
| Bamboo 14' long and 3" dia | 4 Ea     | 400.00           | 1,600.00           |
| <b>Grand Total</b>         |          |                  | <b>6,400.00</b>    |

### Corner Bracing

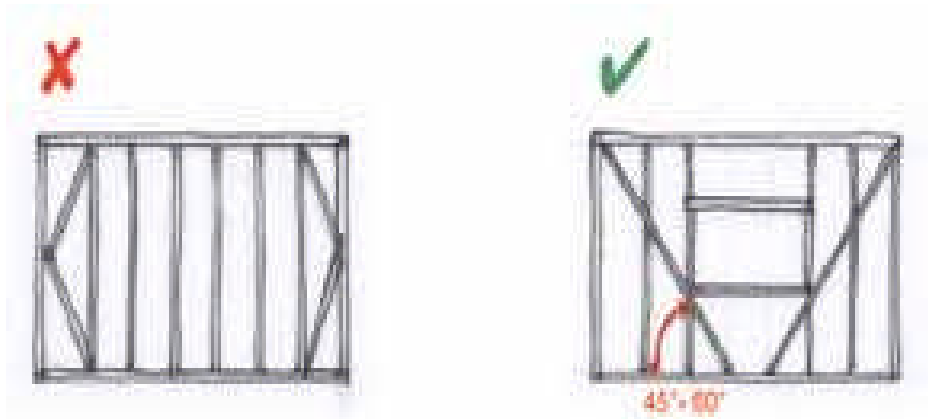
Corner Bracing is set along with wood in a slanting state with the pillar and paiera on the upper part of the corner of the house. According to the picture, this is 3" feet long and attached with the corner pillar in 45-degree tri-angle position. Wood size for the corner bracing would be 3"x2.5" inch. Corner bracing makes for bonding between the pillars and the house roof, obstructing any trend on the part of the house to lean back and/or move in the face of wind or storm surge.

### Estimated Cost of forming Corner Bracing in the House

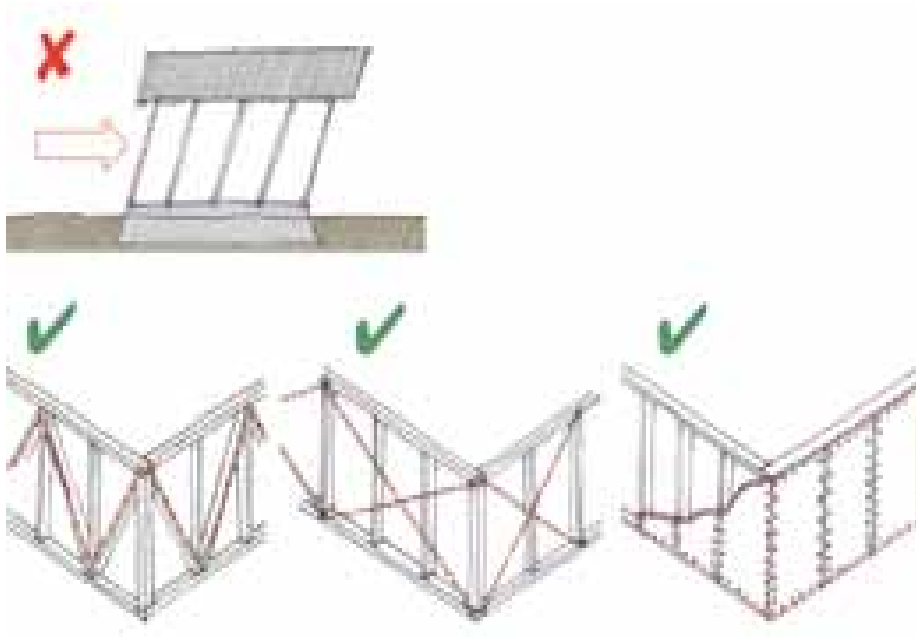
#### Corner Bracing made of Wood

| Item Detail              | Quantity | Unit Price (BDT) | Total Amount (BDT) |
|--------------------------|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| Wood of 3"x2.50"/3' long | 2 Cft.   | 800.00           | 1,600.00           |
| <b>Grand Total</b>       |          |                  | <b>1,600.00</b>    |

## Pictures depicting issues/matters relevant to House Bracing



Picture. 87: There has to be properly set vertical, diagonal and corner-wise bracing to ensure a firm wood-frame (Sketch Credit-IFRC)



Picture. 88: Plenty of vertical, diagonal and corner-wise bracings have to be set in the house fence in order to strengthen the fence (Sketch Credit-IFRC)

**Pictures depicting issues/matters relevant to House Bracing**



Pictures 89 & 90: Various types of cross bracing



Pictures 91 & 92: Various types of corner bracing

## Session X

### Subject: House Ceiling (Tenth Step towards House Construction)

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Objective</b>                  | <b>This Session will enable the Participants</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To define Ceiling and describe its importance.</li> <li>2. To narrate the technique and strategy to develop a Ceiling.</li> <li>3. To describe about the advantages, disadvantages and cost of Ceiling.</li> <li>4. To describe clearly about its maintenance.</li> <li>5. To explain the disaster risk reduction aspects/issues to be considered while developing a Ceiling and inform others accordingly.</li> </ol>   |
| <b>Time</b>                       | 50 Minutes  |
| <b>Methodology</b>                | Lecture, Discussion, Question-Answer, Display of Ceiling, Demonstrating Ceiling Materials, Experience sharing, etc.   |
| <b>Materials</b>                  | Board, Marker, Masking Tape, Pin, Brown Paper, Ceiling Model, etc.  |
| <b>Session Conduction Process</b> | <b>Step-I: Time-5 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will exchange greetings and initiate day's session; at the very outset, s/he will write out the topic and objective on the board or poster paper.  |
|                                   | <b>Step-II: Time-20 Minutes</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitator will define ceiling, reflect on its importance and discuss about different types of ceiling.</li> <li>2. S/he will refer to various materials required to make a ceiling, show its formation strategy and describe the utility of house covering/roof.</li> </ol>   |
|                                   | <b>Step-III: Time-15 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will resort to practical demonstration with model display to narrate what aspects/issues are relevant to disaster risk reduction while developing a ceiling   |
|                                   | <b>Step-IV: Time-10 Minutes</b><br>Facilitator will seek participants view/opinion on the following as part of evaluation process through question-answer: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is a ceiling, its importance, advantages and disadvantages?</li> <li>2. What measures need to be considered for disaster risk reduction in respect of ceiling?</li> </ol> <p>S/he might be required to reiterate points/issues as he deems appropriate for the sake of participants clarity; then s/he will wrap up the session with vote of thanks</p> |



## Facilitator's Guide

### (House Ceiling)

#### Ceiling

Ceiling forms an important part of the house which safeguards and shields the inmates from sunshine heat and winter cold; light household items can also be stored / preserved on the ceiling, especially during flood. It beautifies house setting, too. Family members can stay/live on the ceiling during flood, if it is hard, strong and high enough. Ceiling is generally made of bamboo splits and bamboo lath/clamp.



Pictures 93: Ceiling made of Bamboo splits

#### Advantages and Disadvantages of a House Ceiling made of (i) Bamboo Splits and (ii) Wood

| Ceiling Detail             | Advantages   | Disadvantages  |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Ceiling from Bamboo Splits | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Skilled Artisan is not required</li><li>2. Controls house temperature (heat and cold)</li><li>3. Beautifies the house</li><li>4. Light valuable household items can be stored / preserved at the time of flood</li><li>5. Little time is required for its framing</li></ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Comparatively less strong or sustainable</li><li>2. Bulk/weighty items cannot be stored</li></ol> |
| Ceiling from Wood          | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Controls the room temperature (heat and cold)</li></ol>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Comparatively costly</li><li>2. Skilled Artisan is required</li></ol>                             |

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
|  | 2. Beautifies the house<br>3. Valuable household items can be stored and temporary accommodation ensured at the time of flood<br>4. Strong and long lasting | 3. Comparatively much time is required for its formation |
|--|---|--|

### Comparative Cost Analysis to work out a Ceiling

#### Ceiling made of Bamboo

| Item Detail        | Quantity | Unit Price (BDT) | Total Amount (BDT) |
|--------------------|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| Bamboo Splits      | 180 Sft. | 40.00            | 7,200.00           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> |          |                  | <b>7,200.00</b>    |

#### Ceiling made of Wood

| Item Detail        | Quantity | Unit Price (BDT) | Total Amount (BDT) |
|--------------------|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| Wood 2" thick      | 15 Cft.  | 800.00           | 12,000.00          |
| Workers Wages      | Lump Sum | ---              | 2,400.00           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> |          |                  | <b>14,400.00</b>   |

### Estimated Budget of a Disaster-resilient Low-Cost House

House Size (Four-sided Roof): 18'-00"x10'-6"+6'-00"

| STEPS                             | 1ST MODEL        | 2ND MODEL         | 3RD MODEL         |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| First: <b>Layout</b>              | 950.00           | 950.00            | 950.00            |
| Second: <b>Base/Foundation</b>    | 2,000.00         | 3,990.00          | 3,990.00          |
| Third: <b>Plinth</b>              | 7,200.00         | 12,200.00         | 12,200.00         |
| Fourth: <b>Pillar</b>             | 4,000.00         | 20,000.00         | 21,200.00         |
| Fifth: <b>Fence</b>               | 11,060.00        | 16,000.00         | 21,600.00         |
| Sixth: <b>Doors &amp; Windows</b> | 6,500.00         | 15,000.00         | 15,000.00         |
| Seventh: <b>Truss/Covering</b>    | 17,875.00        | 23,548.00         | 23,548.00         |
| Eighth: <b>Roof/Canopy</b>        | 29,550.00        | 29,550.00         | 29,550.00         |
| Ninth: <b>Corner Bracing</b>      | 1,600.00         | 1,600.00          | 1,600.00          |
| Tenth: <b>Ceiling</b>             | 7,200.00         | 14,400.00         | 14,400.00         |
| <b>Total Amount (BDT)</b>         | <b>87,935.00</b> | <b>137,238.00</b> | <b>144,038.00</b> |

(Concluded)